The Ray Murray concert. (See page 20)

Bridgend & Porthcawl GEM

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THURSDAY, JULY 18TH, 2013

CHILDREN'S CHOICES AND SCHOOL'S OUT INSPIRATION.... See page 21

BRIDGEND SHOW PICTURE PAGE Page 6

BRYNTIRION'S WIZARDS Page 7

KATIE'S CHARITY CYCLE RIDE Page 8

4½ years jail for Pencoed man who was given a 'rare chance'

Report by AJ SICLUNA

POLICE were unable to rouse a man found slumped over the wheel of his parked car in Bridgend. They smashed a window and smelled alcohol.

Also in the vehicle, Cardiff Crown Court was told, were quantities of cocaine and other drugs worth £1,600.

David Walker (31), of Wimbourne Crescent, Pencoed, admitted possessing cocaine and amphetamine with intent to supply, being concerned in making an offer to supply cannabis and mephadrone, making an offer to supply cannabis and cocaine, and being in charge of a vehicle with excess alcohol.

Walker was also in breach of a suspended sentence for drugs offences, involving cannabis and cocaine.

He was jailed for a total of four-and-a-half years, and disqualified from driving for a year. Judge Rhys Rowlands said that last July, the courts gave Walker a rare chance after his drugs offences.

"But you are now back before the court for committing further offences and you must take the consequences."

Prosecutor David Thomas said that in January, police officers found Walker slumped over the steering wheel of a locked car.

They could not rouse him, and smashed a window. They could smell alcohol and they also discovered drugs worth £1,600.

From his mobile phone, said Mr Thomas, it was clear Walker was supplying, and offering to supply, drugs.

After being arrested, he was released on bail and immediately took out a further phone contract indicating he was offering to supply drugs.

His counsel, Owen Williams, said: "He is entirely realistic, and realises there has to be immediate custody.

"He was involved in street dealing on a significant level. For many years, he came into contact with drugs at a time when his life was chaotic.

"Since being remanded in custody, he has been detoxified and is motivated to rid himself of his addiction."

Bryntirion pupils leave Kansas to visit the magical world of Oz

ABOVE: Pupils in Bryntirion Comprehensive School staged a classic musical when they tackled 'The Wizard of Oz'. (To read a report, and for more photographs by Randell John, please turn to page 7).

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Porthcawl's big day – forecast looking good for carnival!

PORTHCAWL'S biggest summer event goes ahead this Saturday, as the town gets ready for Carnival Day.

All the popular elements are in place – and the all-important weather forecast is looking good, too!

The event has been very successful over the years in raising money for local good causes.

The carnival procession starts at 1.30pm from Sandy Bay, and after wending its way through the town centre, it is expected to reach the Porthcawl Rugby Club ground, just off South Road, around 3pm.

A full afternoon of entertainment is promised on the rugby club fields.

(FOR MORE DETAILS, SEE ARTICLE ON PAGE 18).

New fire station could replace existing units

PORTHCAWL and Kenfig Hill could both lose their fire stations if the South Wales Fire Service goes ahead with plans to build a brand new station, probably in South Cornelly.

In the 'Fire Cover Review' the Fire Service argues that call-outs are dropping in the Bridgend area for a variety of reasons, and says that as a result, the area has more fire engines and firefighters than it needs.

Similar exercises are in the pipeline for Cowbridge and Barry, but all are subject to consultation.

(For a full report, see page 13).

Death in Pencoed – man is arrested

POLICE investigating the death of a 44-year-old woman, whose body was found at a house on Tybryn Terrace, Pencoed, late on Sunday, July 14, have arrested a 45-year-old local man on suspicion of murder.

Police attended the address after concerns were raised by family members, and officers discovered the victim inside.

She was later named as Assia Newton, a mother of three. The 45-year-old man who was arrested, is receiving medical treatment and has not yet been interviewed by police.

Detectives are appealing for information concerning the movements of a black Peugeot 307, registration KO 04 VDA between 2pm on Sunday afternoon and 12.30pm on Monday, July 15.

The head of the Specialist Crime Investigations Team at South Wales Police, Detective Superintendent Paul Hurley, said: "We are appealing to anyone who may have seen this car to contact us.

"We want to piece together a picture of the movements of the vehicle during that time."

Anyone with any information concerning this incident, should contact the Incident Room on 01656 306099 or anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Council strengthens links with Armed Forces at get-together

LINKS between Bridgend county borough and the armed services are being strengthened.

A council-led event was held to learn how local servicemen and women, their families and veterans can be better supported.

It is part of the lead-up to the signing of an official Armed Forces Community Covenant by BCBC later this year.

Council officers, Royal British Legion, the Army and veterans came together with local organisations and charities to look at issues faced by servicemen and women and ask what the council and its partners can put in place to help.

"Among the issues discussed were how we can improve understanding of the local 'armed forces family', housing issues affecting veterans, and how to signpost servicemen and women and those who have left the forces to better support" explained Council Leader Mel Nott, who is also the council's Armed Forces Champion.

"This event was really important, as it gave us all a chance to discuss the issues which are important to the armed forces community and consider what commitment we can give service personnel, their families and veterans as part of the covenant we intend to sign.

"Serving members and veterans make a significant contribution to our communities, and this covenant will also aim to make it easier for them and their families to access help and support in the local community.

"As Armed Forces Champion, I'm determined that Bridgend county borough's covenant should make a real and meaningful difference to our armed forces community and show our appreciation by offering something special in return."

Veteran Paul Mathias, who runs the Buddybuddy Scheme and who delivered a moving presentation about post-traumatic stress disorder, added: "Working together in this way can only be positive.

"If one veteran's life is transformed by the covenant then it's worth it.

"It's good to see so many partners, the council and the army involved in making this happen. It's definitely the way forward so well done to the borough."

Captain Phil Carter, Adjutant from the Welsh Transport Regiment, said: "Bridgend has been hugely proactive and committed to developing its relationship with the Armed Forces and to growing partnerships and support with the council and local organisations.

"The Armed Forces family is looking forward to formalising that partnership through the Armed Forces Covenant and working together even more closely in the future."

In 2008, BCBC granted the Royal Welsh the Freedom of the county borough and re-conferred the honour in 2012. The same honour was given to the Welsh Guards in 2011. The council plays a key role in marking the annual Armed Forces Day locally, and has helped to organise homecoming parades and Remembrance Sunday services.

'EC: Let's get out now'

SO the people of Wales, especially in the Rhondda, have made their voices heard by stating that they would vote to leave the corrupt institution we call the EU.

I think they are now singing the same tune as most of the people of the UK.

It's a pity that most of our politicians here in Cardiff and Westminster didn't take any notice.

We have First Minister Carwyn Jones saying he thinks we should stay in the EU but we haven't been given one good reason why we should.

The EU has turned into one massive interfering, undemocratic, dictatorship.

Let's get out now, not in 2017.

DJ Radford

Readers' Letters

IMPORTANT! We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. LETTERS AND EMAILS MUST INCLUDE FULL ADDRESS AND A CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER. AN EMAIL ADDRESS ALONE IS NOT SUFFICIENT!

We will (in certain circumstances) protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, DON JOHN, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7E OR email gemeditorial@tindlenews. co.uk

'Money is tight, but you have to get the priorities right'

IN response to a letter on July 4 by Mr G Smith, Llantwit Major, I wish to address his questions.

He is quite right to point out that we are in difficult financial circumstances, having inherited an extremely challenging financial settlement following 13 years of Labour Government in Westminster.

Readers will recall the final note left by Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Liam Byrne, as his Labour Government left office in 2010, in which he admitted just how bad things had become: "I'm afraid there's no money left", was his now infamous parting shot.

Whilst it may be tiresome hearing this mantra again and again, the position the UK Coalition has found itself in has left the Government with no choice but to prioritise and to get the public finances back in order.

That's the point I have been trying to make – no matter how tight the purse strings get, you have to have your priorities right.

Currently, the young, the elderly, poor and vulnerable are being isolated, particularly in rural areas like the Vale, by the Welsh Government's savage cuts to the grant for bus operators.

This is the same Welsh Government which is currently pushing through a sustainable travel bill in the Assembly, whilst their fiscal policy is ultimately denying rural residents viable transport routes.

My final point relates to the funding of local authorities, an issue my colleague Alun Cairns MP raised last week.

If the Vale Council was funded in the same way as its neighbours in Cardiff and RCT, then there would be more that could be done locally to offset these damaging cuts.

Unfortunately, residents are suffering from both a discriminatory funding system at Welsh Government level, and a local Labour council (in the Vale) that shows no signs of being willing to reassess its priorities and properly support local bus routes.

Andrew RT Davies AM
South Wales Central Region
(Leader of the Welsh Conservatives)

Linda's legacy gives boost to local groups

THE remarkable voluntary work by a group of Pencoed people to help others in the town was highlighted at a presentation night at the Welfare Hall.

Just over a year ago, young mother and businesswoman Linda Edwards lost her battle against cancer. But her legacy to the people of Pencoed was the Community Shop she set up. The profits of that busy shop have been shared out to the organisations that help make Pencoed and Heol-y-Cyw such a busy and vibrant area.

Chairman of the Community Shop, Richard Roberts, said Linda would have been so proud to see the results of the work she, her husband, children and family had started.

He urged more people in the area to give up their time and help to support the charity shop.

Mr Roberts, butcher in the town for the last 25 years, said more than £6,000 would be shared out among the groups and £350 was given to 'little Alfie's' wish list.

Little Alfie's gift will be used towards the provision of medical equipment.

The groups that will benefit are Pencoed and Croesty schools, Pencoed Comprehensive School, the Guides, Brownies and Scouts, Mid Glamorgan Mixed Choir, the Contact Group, Heol-y-Cyw pensioners, Pencoed OAP Association, Pencoed Boys AFC, Pencoed Cricket Club and Pencoed Junior Rugby.

Wayne B Morgan

'Get your £1 ready!'

ALTHOUGH I live in Rhoose, I am not a frequent visitor to Cardiff Airport, but I felt I had to warn people who did not know that they have to pay to get out of the airport after dropping people off for their flights.

On Monday last, I was taking my friends to catch a plane (two of them had been dropped off at the airport with their cases) and I was to drive the other friend to meet them.

He told me that he had to pay £1 to get out of the airport, which I must admit I didn't believe.

However, it was a good job that he left me the £1, as I think I may have been prosecuted for not paying as I didn't take my purse with me.

I cannot believe that I dropped him off which took two minutes (I didn't need to go in the car park) and when I got to the barrier I was told to pay this pound.

I have told several people and they were all surprised to hear this.

So to everyone who takes anyone to the airport, please take money with you, because they will charge you for dropping people off.

Diane Rees,
Rhoose.

'Welsh NHS must improve'

AFTER visiting a relative in intensive care at the UHW, I was totally shocked to learn that they were unacceptably short staffed.

In fact, I overheard one of the nurses (who are doing an amazing job under these circumstances) saying she was going to write an incident report about it.

Now I am aware of this problem, I must ask just what is going on with our NHS in Wales? It is now time the Welsh Labour-run Assembly Government gave NHS funding a greater priority.

It is really wrong that our NHS staff cannot give patients the care they should be getting due to staff shortages. Furthermore, if this is allowed to continue it is bound to lead to complications.

When I asked staff about this matter they replied they were not allowed to talk about it. So I hope that the unions, the board and the WAG will now urgently do something.

Coun Richard Bertin,
(Independent, Vale of Glamorgan Council)

WRITE IN!

Email your letters, to the Editor, with your full name, address and telephone number, to: gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

Councils join forces for bulk buying deal

BRIDGEND County Borough Council (BCBC) has extended its agreement to work together with 15 other local authorities as part of the Welsh Purchasing Consortium until 2016.

A BCBC spokesman said that being part of the consortium helped the council make significant financial savings in recent years, thanks to the economies of scale achieved by so many councils working together.

Discussions are also taking place between the Welsh Purchasing Consortium and local authorities in north Wales who aren't currently involved, so that they can consider developing an All-Wales Local Government Procurement Service.

That could potentially lead to further savings, and cabinet member for resources, Coun Mike Gregory, said: "Being part of the consortium has helped us to spend budgets wisely and make savings that we can then put into frontline services.

"Collaborating with other councils has also had the added benefit of letting us share best practice, so we are pleased to continue the arrangement."

'A real mixture of oddments'

PENCOED WI NEWS

THE speaker for our July meeting had to cancel at very short notice due to illness, so instead of hearing about 'The lighter side of shopping', we had a real mixture of oddments.

This is every president's nightmare and Val coped exceedingly well, by reforming the meeting on a couple of hours notice.

Comic poems and stories, quizzes and more time to chat were the order of the afternoon.

There will not be a speaker at our August meeting on the 13th; it will be in the hands of the committee. (We hope they enjoy what we have planned, fingers crossed!).

Visitors are always welcome, so come along and see what goes on. We meet at Pencoed Welfare Hall on the second Tuesday on the month from 1.45pm to 4pm.

For further information ring Val on 01656862181 or Pat on 01656860289. **VW**

'Nothing sporting about injustice'

SPORTING injustice, the very word 'sporting' in this case makes me want to cringe – as one who on age alone could qualify for the organisation known laughingly as the FAW – guardians of Welsh football.

These are people who through manipulation of their own rules, denied the senior teams of Barry Town and Llanelli and their thriving academies, opportunities in the sport they love.

Someone, somewhere has to bring democracy back into the game.

I say this with great respect to all our participating teams this year and I wish them all the best of luck and hope they win for Wales.

To see so many young people all over Wales so concerned via social media about what's right and proper lifts my heart, and the gargantuan efforts of all at the wonderful 'family' – for that's what they regard themselves as at Barry Town.

To deny the children of two thriving communities the chance to enhance their future is nothing short of despicable.

I hope and pray that the utmost pressure is exerted on the FAW.

Walter Cronk

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL JULY 25)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
18 Thur	01.57	8.2	14.33	8.1
19 Fri	03.07	8.1	15.52	8.3
20 Sat	04.25	8.5	17.01	8.9
21 Sun	05.29	9.1	18.02	9.5
22 Mon	06.29	9.7	18.53	10.1
23 Tues	07.23	10.1	19.48	10.4
24 Wed	08.12	10.3	20.34	10.5
25 Thur	08.56	10.2	21.22	10.4

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.

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Arts group wins £5,000 to help boost town centre

NOT-FOR-PROFIT Bridgend Arts Ltd, which aims to regenerate Bridgend town centre has been approved for an Arts Council of Wales grant.

Run by local girls Rachel Ashong-Quinn and Harriet Hopkins, it will use the £5,000 award to build on the success of their first three events by running monthly events until the end of 2013, before applying for further funding for a second year.

"We want to support the town centre and the traders by bringing footfall back," says Harriet who was born and brought up in Bridgend and has seen the town change.

"People find it more convenient to shop in the out-of-town stores, even though Bridgend has a lot to offer retail-wise. Bridgend Arts is here to give them another reason to come into town and, more importantly, to stay.

"This isn't a drop in the ocean project that will go away – we're here to make arts happen in Bridgend indefinitely!

"The grant is fantastic news for us. Not only because we can now buy our own equipment and marketing materials for the events, but because it means the Arts Council of Wales sees potential in Bridgend and our organisation, and is willing to support us as we nurture and encourage more arts activities in the town."

Committed to working with the traders and other residents of Bridgend's town centre, Bridgend Arts has held events in Ella Riley's Sweet Shop on Nolton Street, Christian Ryan's Stained Glass Workshop in Ewenny, and CF Hills Barbers on Wyndham Street.

The July event, *PechaKucha 101*, will be held at The Zone, a newly-renovated unit on Dunraven Street, run by the Bridge Mentoring Scheme.

Rachel, who is currently completing her MA in arts management at RWCMD, said: "All our events are quirky and different, and have something for the audience to get involved with if they want to.

"*PechaKucha 101* is a great chance for people new to Bridgend Arts to come and see what we can do, and for our current followers to enjoy a unique night out in a comfortable setting.

"We've got some really interesting local creatives signed up for this one; it promises to be a great night with an electric atmosphere."

PechaKucha 101 is on Thursday July 25, 7pm – 9pm at The Zone on Dunraven Street. Entry is £3 or £2 with a student card – pay at the door, no ticket required!

For more information about Bridgend Arts events, just search 'Bridgend Arts' on Facebook, tweet us @BridgendArts or email BridgendArts@gmail.com.

Jail for Pencoed man who attacked woman

REPORT by AJ SICLUNA

AFTER a vodka-drinking spree, a man attacked a woman friend in an episode of "prolonged and persistent violence"..

Lee Pritchard, 42, used a knife that caused his victim finger injuries which required stitches, Cardiff Crown Court heard.

Pritchard, of Heol Bryn Cwtyn, Pencoed, admitted a charge of affray and was jailed for two years, three months.

Prosecutor Michael Jones said Sadie Edwards had known Pritchard about a year, and he began to consider he was her boyfriend.

He became increasingly possessive and they fell out. In February, they bumped into one another, she agreed he could stay the night in her home.

But, said Mr Jones, he began drinking vodka and became antagonistic and argumentative.

Soon after, he punched her to the face and ribs, went into the kitchen and waved a knife at her. Miss Edwards tried to grab it, but suffered finger wounds.

The police arrived and Miss Edwards, who was sober, was taken to the Princess of Wales hospital.

Pritchard denied being responsible for the attack and claimed that Miss Edwards attacked him.

His counsel, Jeremy Jenkins, said: "Neither party has any desire to see each other again. Pritchard has very little recollection of the incident. This is his first conviction for violence. He has long-term medical problems and cannot work. He also realises the enormity of what could have happened."

Judge Patrick Curran told him: "You accept that you subjected Sadie Edwards to an episode of prolonged and persistent violence. "

A five-year restraining order was made, preventing Pritchard contacting Miss Edwards.

WI calendar is filling up!

MYNYDD CYNYDD WI NEWS

THE July meeting of Mynydd Cynydd WI took place in Pyle church hall, chaired by Marjorie Goode.

She informed members that the picnic in Margam Park was a great success, and was enjoyed by all who attended. Several members have items ready to enter in the Glamorgan WI show in Cornelly on July 26-27.

Arrangements for the quilt and craft exhibition on July 30 in Pyle church hall are well under way with an entrance fee of £2, which will include tea and cake.

Members were reminded of the August trip to Labels, Ross on Wye and (weather permitting) on to Symonds Yat.

Our calendar is filling up with a fashion show in the Norton Hotel in Mumbles in October, which includes a two-course meal, and last, but not least, St Davids Hall in December to see Only Men Aloud.

Enid Rymer has arranged a walk on July 22.

Marjorie welcomed guest speakers from the Coting Handbell Ringers, led by Margaret Gammon. We were entertained with music from all over the world, and members were enthralled.

Our next meeting is on September 10 after the August break, with guest speaker, Marilyn Sydenham, on the subject of 'Hearing Dogs for Deaf People'.

We would love to meet anybody wishing to find out what the WI is all about; call into any of our meetings and you will be assured of a warm welcome.

CC

Tondu pupils are rewarded

MORE than 220 pupils from Tondu Primary School have received recognition for "positive behaviour" in the school's annual Citizenship Awards.

These are designed to help children understand what it feels like to be a good citizen by taking responsibility in their own homes, at school, in the community and the wider world.

Activities such as tidying up at home, taking part in school competitions, litter picking in the community and fundraising were all rewarded in the ceremony, held at the Abercynffig Bible Church.

The boys and girls received either gold, silver or bronze award certificates.

Coun Huw David, cabinet member for children and young people, said: "It is fantastic to see so many children actively take part in these awards.

"It's important that we encourage the younger generation to act responsibly from a young age.

"Positive feedback from teachers, parents, and friends helps increase their self-confidence, instills a sense of pride in their achievements and encourages them to become better citizens.

"Good citizens treat others with respect, they respect authority, and they respect the environment."

Deputy Mayor of Bridgend county borough, Coun Gary Thomas was in attendance, along with Rev Stephen Pare.

Police seek Maesteg man

POLICE are appealing for information concerning the whereabouts of Gavin Sparrow (30) from Maesteg, who is wanted in connection with an assault outside the Porthcawl Hotel at about 1pm on Saturday, June 2.

He is described as "five feet seven inches tall, with short straight brown hair and blue eyes and of a proportionate build".

Contact Porthcawl police station on 101, or free and anonymously via Crimestoppers and quote reference 62130163447.

GAVIN SPARROW

GOVERNORS GAIN AWARD AT PENCOED

PENCOED Comprehensive School has been awarded the 'Governors Wales Quality Mark Bronze Award' – the first in Bridgend county borough since the award's implementation in June 2012.

The award is endorsed by the Welsh Government and ADEW (Association of Directors of Education in Wales.

David George, headteacher, said: "The support of the governing body and the interest that its members have in all aspects of school life is valued highly by myself and my colleagues on the school staff.

"This support has certainly been instrumental in helping us improve our standards. For example, during last year, Estyn judged that the school has made significant improvements. Also, our banding jumped from Band 5 to Band 3, making us the second highest improving school out of band 5 from across Wales.

"The average points scored by A Level students was higher in Pencoed than in any other local school. The percentage of year-11 pupils gaining five or more GCSE grades at C, or equivalent, was the highest in Bridgend at 81 per cent. Attendance has now risen to 93.8 per cent, exceeding our challenging target of 93 per cent and exclusions from school have fallen to their lowest levels.

"Having the governors visiting the school regularly, meeting with pupils and staff, acting as our critical friends, has certainly been of benefit. We are delighted that their hard work and attention to detail has been acknowledged with this award."

Letter box training will help centre dogs to love the postman!

AS latest statistics show there were 31 dog-related incidents in the county borough, Dogs Trust Bridgend is installing letterboxes at its training facilities to help dogs learn to love the postman's arrival – to support Royal Mail's Dog Awareness Week.

Beverley Price, Manager of Dogs Trust Bridgend said."Eight of the 18 Dogs Trust rehoming centres in the UK already use letterboxes in their real life training rooms, but the charity is keen to see that the majority of the 16,000 dogs that it cares for each year have access to similar acclimatisation facilities.

"Where appropriate, staff will work with dogs to address the underlying fear that can be a trigger for aggression towards visitors to a home", said

"Dogs Trust has long supported the need to keep postal and other community workers safe whilst they are performing their jobs and we are delighted to help this latest Royal Mail initiative.

"We have always ensured that our dogs are as acclimatised as they can be to real life situations that they will come across when they leave our kennels. Introducing letterboxes to all of the rehoming centres with training facilities is an obvious next step in providing a 'first class' service."

Dogs Trust is also keen to raise public awareness of the wider issues about responsible dog ownership. The charity recently welcomed the extension of dangerous dogs legislation to include all private property under new Government proposals.

The Dangerous Dogs (Amendment) Bill under consideration within the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill will introduce penalties for keepers of dogs who allow their dog to harm lawful visitors to their home.

Dogs Trust sees this as "a much needed step" in curbing irresponsible dog ownership and encouraging better control of dogs.

Clarissa Baldwin, Dogs Trust CEO commented: "Owners have to be held accountable for having a dangerously out-of-control dog in any place – including their home. We hope the extension will result in more people taking responsibility for their dogs' behaviour; with penalties for those who don't.

"Irresponsible dog owners need to be punished, rather than the dogs. The time is right for the Government to look at the preventative measures urgently required to stop dog attacks from happening in the first place.

"Dogs Trust will continue to lobby the Government and engage MPs on this issue until we finally have effective, preventative dangerous dogs legislation to successfully update the draconian Dangerous Dogs Act."

PENYBONT LIFEGUARDS RESCUE A KAYAKER

TWO volunteers from Penybont Lifeguards rescued a kayaker in the estuary at Ogmore-by-Sea, when his boat tipped over and filled with water.

The strong currents in the estuary made it difficult for the inexperienced kayaker to make it back to shore, said Will John, Senior lifeguard. "Our patrol saw the gentleman attempt an 'eskimo roll', but he got in trouble because his craft filled with water. We know the river currents are very dangerous at the estuary, so he needed our help.

"We used our rescue equipment to get to him and returned him safely to shore."

"The kayaker was met by his wife, who had witnessed the event from the beach. Although shaken up by the experience, he was checked over and well enough to drive home."

Penybont Lifeguards patrol Ogmore by Sea on the weekends from June to September. Steve Parker, Penybont Lifeguards boat captain explained: "Despite the slow start to the summer, we've rescued a number of people who were using inflatable dinghies where the wind has blown them off-shore.

"Often, people start paddling down the river, and think they are safe, but the wind can quickly blow them out to sea."

The volunteers are expecting hundreds of people on the beach this weekend and urge them to be aware of the changeable conditions.

Penybont Lifeguards are urging people to respect the tide and weather and not use inflatable dinghies. They advise people to be aware of the incoming tide, swim between the red and yellow flags and not to swim in the river or estuary.

CAERAU PACT

THE next PACT meeting in Caerau takes place on Monday, July 22, at 6pm in the offices of the Caerau Nantyffyllon Development Trust.

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'FAMILY WERE APPALLED' AT WHAT HAPPENED' – *COUNSEL*

Penarth man (19) escapes jail after supplying drugs

CROWN COURT REPORT
by **AJ SICLUNA**

POLICE smelled cannabis when they stopped a car in Cardiff, the city's Crown Court has been told.

Inside, in a bag on the back seat, was a quantity of the drug worth £960, said prosecutor David Thomas.

Ashley Jones (19) of Tal-y-Bryn, Penarth, admitted being concerned in the supply of cannabis and possessing it with intent to supply.

Jones, who had no previous convictions, was sentenced to eight months in a young offender institution, suspended for two years, and ordered to carry out 250 hours unpaid work and to pay £250 costs.

Judge Rhys Rowlands told him: "As you will appreciate, this is a serious matter and ordinarily attracts a sentence of some length. Clearly, there was a commercial element.

"You come from a close family and there is hope you will not let them down again."

Mr Thomas said that in November, the police stopped a car driven by Jones in Cowbridge Road West, Ely, Cardiff. They smelled cannabis and discovered the drug on the back seat.

Jones' mobile phone contained text messages indicating he was involved in supplying drugs.

His counsel, Ruth Smith, said he had full-time work as a barman, after which he intended to resume full-time studies.

"He is still very young. Unfortunately, he became involved with cannabis himself and then started offending.

"He supplied to named, known people, to obtain money to buy the drugs himself.

"He comes from a very responsible family, and they have been appalled at what happened. To them, his offending was completely unacceptable."

He said his parents made their feelings very clear to Jones.

"He has great potential, and educational ability. He is also a keen and good golfer who hopes to go to university. He is a productive member of society."

Daniel's message from Africa for the young people of south Wales

by TIM CHAPMAN

A MAN from Zimbabwe is teaching young people in Bridgend and Cowbridge about the difficulties of providing good health care to people in parts of Africa.

Daniel Nadzo (41) this week visited Cowbridge Comprehensive and is due to visit schools in Bridgend soon.

Although he now lives in south Wales and spends part of his time as a web designer, he has not forgotten his homeland.

Daniel represents the River Africa charity which seeks to improve health provision for people in Africa.

He told The GEM: "We are involved in the creation of a hospital in the lower veldt of Zimbabwe at Guruve, a district that does not currently have one.

"We already have permission to build it there."

Another project is providing a mobile clinic – and Daniel is hoping a local company might be able to donate a 4 x 4 vehicle that would help health workers travel around the testing terrain of Zimbabwe.

"The current vehicle was manufactured in 1994 and has problems. I'm hoping to ship a more up-to-date 4 x 4 to Namibia and drive it down to Zimbabwe."

Part of Daniel's message in schools is that motivated young people can visit countries such as Zimbabwe, Namibia and Malawi and help in local projects that are related to their studies – areas of development such as health, construction or teaching.

"They can get 70 points towards their university application and it looks good on their CV," he emphasised.

"It gives them a taste of the real world and demonstrates that they have the courage to make a difference.

"When people go out to these areas, it makes the people feel valued that others have come to help."

He added: "From its inception River Africa has been run by unpaid Welsh Volunteers, and will continue to be run by volunteers for its lifetime."

Schools and other organisations interested to hear about River Africa's work can contact Daniel via email at: daniel@river-africa.org

For more information aboit River Africa, go to www.riverafrica.org.

ABOVE: Daniel Nadzo is giving talks to young people in local schools, and explaining about the sorts of projects they can get involved in if they travel to parts of Africa.

St Athan man burgled his friend's home

REPORT by AJ SICLUNA

WHILE a woman was serving a prison sentence, a friend burgled her unoccupied home, Cardiff Crown Court has been told.

Andrew Spurway (31) of Shackleton Close, St Athan, admitted a charge of burglary. He was jailed for 14 months, suspended for two years, made subject to a supervision order for a year and ordered to carry out 200 hours unpaid work, and to pay a victim surcharge of £100.

Judge Rhys Rowlands said Spurway targeted the home of a friend and committed a serious and mean offence: "He knew exactly where she was at the time."

The Judge said he had been persuaded to draw back from passing an immediate prison sentence.

Prosecutor Ruth Smith said Spurway burgled the home in Barry, and stole an LCD television.

At the time, the occupier, Tressa Williams, was in prison.

While he was in the house, Spurway handled a number of letters and the police were successful in finding Spurway's fingerprints on them.

When arrested, Spurway admitted he knew where the woman was and said he had previously stayed at the house.

He was said to have previous convictions for burglary and one for robbery.

His solicitor, Adam Sharpe, said: "When this happened, his lifestyle was chaotic. It was not sophisticated, and at the time he was effectively homeless."

Memories of a ballet dancer

MERTHYR MAWR WI NEWS

MERTHYR MAWR WI president, Margaret Batten, welcomed speaker, Chris Seaman, at the July meeting, who gave a delightful talk about her life as a ballet dancer.

Having trained at the Royal Ballet school, she joined Covent Garden. She spoke about her role as a dancer in operas such as *The Flying Dutchman, Traviata* and *Don Carlos* and how wonderful and privileged it had been to be part of productions with artistes like Joan Sutherland, Pavarotti and Nureyev.

She left the Opera Ballet and went to join a ballet company in Germany, where she met her husband. Using photographs to illustrate her journey, she gave a wonderful picture of her life as a ballet dancer, and her love and passion for dance.

During the business part of the meeting, the president thanked members who had attended the link meeting hosted by Southerndown WI. It had been an entertaining evening of poetry and song.

The annual council meeting had been well attended. Adam Henson of Countryfile had proved to be an inspiring speaker and the audience gave him a standing ovation.

The next meeting will be the summer dinner on Wednesday, August 7, in Ewenny Community Hall.

Quiz League questions

HERE are this week's specials:

1. Which future King of England was born in Caernarvon in 1284?

2. The title of which television series starring Robson Green as a psychological profiler is taken from a line from TS Eliot's *Four Quartets*?

3. Which French jockey rode the winner of the Prix de L'Arc de Triomphe on three successive occasions from 1996?

4. In which city is the 'Trip to Jerusalem,' which claims to be the oldest public house in England?

A Rudge
(for Quiz League)

Answers:
1. Edward II.
2. Wire in the Blood.
3. Olivier Peslier.
4. Nottingham.

Porthcawl artists' summer exhibition awards prizes

MEMBERS of Porthcawl and District Art Society again displayed their work at a summer exhibition in the John Street Gallery.

The most popular painting chosen was a watercolour of Porthgain, painted by Tricia Simon, and the second was jointly won by Jack Davies and Elizabeth Campbell.

The third most popular was also jointly won by Wendy Davies-Williams, Marian Rees and Ray John.

There were a number of 'highly-commended' and the most original work was won by Marion Rees.

All paintings can be viewed at the John Street Gallery (11am-4pm most days).

Anyone needing advice or would like to join the group can call in at the gallery.

ABOVE: First prize goes to Tricia Simon with her painting 'The Boathouse, Laugharn'.

COMMUNITY NEWS
TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL
Your local correspondent is Nancy Davidge, "Tynewydd", Llangan. (01656) 860303

Leavers' concert

MY word, what a gifted team of entertainers Llangan School has!

As an invited guest, I thoroughly enjoyed the leavers' concert hosted by two year-6 pupils, William O'Connor and Iestyn Galton.

The theme was 'I'm a year-6, get me out of here!' There was singing, dancing, and an excellent display of gymnastics.

Pictures of the performing boys and girls as they were when toddlers appeared on screen, much to the amusement of everyone. A thoroughly enjoyable morning!

During my frequent visits to the school, I have seen the progress made as children in the nursery and infants classes grow into responsible young adults.

To those children leaving, who will continue their education at Cowbridge Comprehensive School, all the very best.

Once again, my thanks to headteacher Steve Williams and all the staff at Llangan School for the welcome I receive on my visits.

Award

THE Rotary Club Citizen Award has been presented to Eve Mordecai.

Church concert

A CONCERT by the popular Minnesingers, took place in St Canna's Church, Llangan, on Friday, July 12.

Many local people attended and prizes were won by raffle ticket holders. It was a pleasure to see Rev Peter Raikes and Mrs Raikes enjoying their off duty evening!

Age Concern enjoy a shopping trip!

VOLUNTEERS from Age Concern Senior Health Shop and Friends and Neighbours took time out together to enjoy a trip to Porthcawl and Bridgend Designer Outlet.

They enjoyed lunch together at Pavilion Restaurant and shopping for bargains. The weather shone all day, which was a bonus!

This trip was made possible due to use of Vale Community Transport.They hope to have another trip later in the year and plan to make this an annual event.

GF

Captivating talk on the American Indian

SOUTHERNDOWN WI

A LOUD cheer was heard in St Brides Church Hall at the start of the July meeting of Southerndown WI as the speaker appeared from an adjoining room dressed in the costume of a North American Indian, complete with full headdress.

Vernon Edwards then gave a captivating talk on the history of the North American Indian, a subject about which he is not only very knowledgeable, but is also passionate.

He explained how they arrived on the continent during the ice age, on foot from what is now Russia, and he took us through a detailed history of their life and how it changed with the arrival of the 'white man'.

As the white man moved west, their numbers were reduced from over a million to a mere 20,000, through the introduction of 'white man's illnesses', such as the common cold, and through battles and wars.

We learnt how the tribes, whose names are familiar to us, formed as bands and how the arrival of the horse from the south revolutionised their lives.

Of particular interest to the group was how women were treated and their role within the family groups and tribes. Could you put up a teepee in 20 minutes, as was expected of an Indian wife?

After several questions, Vernon was eventually allowed to leave. Our president, Meryl, then completed the usual business of the meeting and the group was provided with the programme for the year until May 2014.

A summary of events taking place was also provided. Members should note, however, that the tea and croquet event on August 16 will start at 2pm and NOT as shown on the summary.

Our next formal meeting will take place on September 12 at 7.15pm, when we will be holding a social evening; new members welcome.

PM

Garnwen Trust

THE Garnwen Trust, was set up by Richard and Margaret Collins, in memory of their son Alex and his girlfriend Beth, who were killed in a plane crash at Phuket, Thailand, while travelling during their gap year in September 2007.

Following the tragedy, Richard and Margaret regularly walked over Garnwen Mountain and it was then the idea of a 'Walk for Al' was thought of. After discussions with family and friends, the Garnwen Trust charity was formed.

The charity has since donated money to Morriston Hospital burns unit; Headway Bridgend; and a charity in Phuket set up by Father Ferdinand, a Catholic priest, to help people whose lives had been destroyed by the Tsunami.

It is now proposed to erect a multi-purpose log cabin, which will be a memorial to Al and Beth, intended to be used by disabled and disadvantaged people, schools, colleges and other charities.

The initial target is to raise £100,000, and at present the total stands at £87,000.

If anyone is interested in helping the Garnwen Trust, or organising an event to raise money, get in touch with the trust at 24, Neath Road, Maesteg, CF34 9PG (01656 736544).

NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of The GEM:

If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me.

I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: CLIVE MITCHELL
1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ
TEL: 01656 725399
email: tynycoed1@yahoo.co.uk

Choir's move

AT the end of July, Bridgend Male Choir will move its rehearsal venue from the OCLP Club, Bryntirion to the church hall at St Mary's RC Church, Ewenny Road, Bridgend.

The choir is sorry to leave the club, after being made so welcome by Malcolm and Julie the club steward and stewardess, as well as by Mike Feeley, the hard-working secretary, and the club members.

In the 53 years of the choir's existence, this will be only its third permanent change of rehearsal venue.

Having spent the first 45 years in the Police Club, Waterton, it moved to Hermon Chapel, Nolton Street until 2005 when it moved to Bryntirion. The first rehearsal at St Mary's will be on Thursday, August 1.

The choir is grateful to Father William Isaac and all in St Mary's parish for their immediate offer to accommodate the choir.

St Mary's Church, with its fantastic acoustics is the choir's favourite local concert venue, and the church hall has all the facilities needed for rehearsals.

Condolences

MR Martin Griffiths the Headteacher of Tynyrheol Primary School, Llangeinor, would like to offer his condolences, and those of all associated with the school, to the family of former headteacher, Mr Brian Sparks MBE, a pioneer in forming a schools basketball league in the area.

Martin also congratulates Amber Crowle, Ioan Davies, Kai Lewis, Ben Parker and Jake Whitefield, on being selected to play for Bridgend North in the Bridgend Classic basketball tournament last Saturday, July 13, at Pencoed College.

Garw Valley Carnival

THE organisers have again decided to hold this prestigious event and the theme will be 'A Walk down Memory Lane', on Saturday, August 17.

There will be a procession, from Pontycymer to Calon Lane Park, Blaengarw, where it is proposed to have a number of stalls set up. Telephone Sian on 01656 871911.

Choir's break

THE popular Maesteg Children's choir which as reported previously held its 27th annual concert recently, will now take a break for the summer. The first rehearsal will take place on Saturday September 7. It practices on Saturdays from 10am to 12 noon at Plasnewydd Primary School, and new members are welcome from all Bridgend county borough areas.

The choir would also like to hear from accompanists – telephone 07970 770927 for more information.

U3A meets

MAESTEG U3A have thanked the speaker David Lewis for a well-researched talk on the iron works and development of Maesteg as a community.

The next meeting will be at Central church hall on Tuesday, July 23, at 2pm when MP Huw Irranca-Davies will give a talk titled 'Horsemeat and pintas'. New members are welcome.

Wedding choir

OGMORE Valley Male Voice Choir has been invited to lead the hymn singing at two weddings – firstly, on July 20 for Alistair Henry and Leah Donovan in Coity parish church at 12.30pm; and then for Wayne Jones and Shelley Smith at De Courceys on July 26 at 12.30pm .

The choir will take part in a three-nation cultural exchange with a tour to Croatia in November, which will involve choirs from Latvia and Croatia.

It rehearses at Canolfan Bethlehem Centre, Commercial Street, Ogmore Vale, on Thursday evenings.

There will be a warm welcome to visitors and prospective new members at any rehearsal.

Charity concert

THERE will be an evening of entertainment at Maesteg Celtic Club on July 27 at 7.15pm, with two local choirs – Harmony and Bois Afan. All money raised will go to the Garnwen Trust charity, with tickets (£5) available from choir members, or at the door.

Summer concert

THIS evening (July 18) the Salvation Army in Castle Street, Maesteg has guest performers, Côr Meibion Maesteg a'r Cylch, for its money-raising concert, at 7.30pm. Entry is £4 adults, £2 children.

Carers' trip

BRIDGEND Carers' Centre is based at 87, Park Street, Bridgend, CF31 4AZ (01656 658479).

Today (July 18) the outreach group will be at Bridgend CBC Maesteg Offices.

On July 19, Paula has organised a trip to Cyfartha Park, Merthyr, set in 160 acres, with sensory gardens, lakes and woodlands, museum and art gallery.

The coach will leave from Hope Chapel, Bridgend at 9.30am and return at 2pm.

On Wednesday, July 24, afternoon carers can pop into the community café between 12.30pm and 3.30pm, to meet friends and members of staff.

Cupid comes to call on couple (70)

MAIR and Teifion Morris are proof that it is never too late for Cupid to come calling!

The 70-year-olds, who are volunteer Welsh Ambulance car service (ACS) drivers, have tied the knot after more than 20 years together.

Retired nurse Mair met former lorry driver Teifion when she worked at the Princess of Wales Hospital in Bridgend and he was visiting a friend.

They dated for two years before settling in Penybryn, Cardigan. Teifion popped the question during a holiday in Majorca.

Mair said: "We'd just had a nice supper down by the harbour, when he went into his pocket and pulled out a box. I thought, 'Earrings, how lovely' – but then I opened the box and it was a ring. I was flabbergasted but, of course, I said yes. We met by chance and just got talking. The rest is history as they say."

The pair were married in a low-key ceremony at the register office in Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, before a reception at The Trewern Arms Hotel in Nevern.

...And the secret to a successful relationship?

"Give and take," " said Teifion. "People don't see eye to eye all of the time, but that's just normal."

The happy couple are continuing to spend their retirement as ACS drivers, using their own vehicles to transport patients to and from routine hospital appointments. There are more than 250 volunteers across Wales.

Mair, originally from the Rhondda Valley, who has been an ACS driver for 16 years, said: "The patients are always so pleased to see me, because they know they can have a good old chat. A lot of elderly people live on their own so we might be the only person they see that week. For some people it's also more comfortable to travel to hospital by car, rather than by ambulance. It's definitely a rewarding job."

Teifion became an ACS driver 15 years ago, after a triple heart bypass meant he had to give up his lorry-driving work.

He said: "I enjoy it, not only because I get to meet a lot of people, but because I love driving. I'm a fluent Welsh speaker and for some people that is their only language, so I think they're grateful to have a conversation in Welsh too. I collect patients not just from Cardigan, but from the surrounding area, so you get to see a lot of Wales."

Joanne Rees-Thomas, customer services manager in patient care services (PCS) with Hywel Dda Health Board area, added: "I've known Mair and Teifion for many years, and they've built up an excellent rapport with the patients they convey. As an organisation we really value our volunteers and the work they do. A huge congratulation to Mair and Teifion on their marriage."

ABOVE: Mair and Teifion.

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Council backing puts young musicians on path to success

Peter Greenwood plays the tuba.

THREE former pupils of Porthcawl Comprehensive, Hannah Thomas, Lucy Noden and Peter Greenwood, have won places in the prestigious National Youth Orchestra of Wales.

Six other local students have successfully auditioned for the National Youth Training Choir of Wales, National Youth Jazz Wales and the National Youth Wind Orchestra of Wales.

The former Bridgend Youth Orchestra members will take up their places thanks to financial support by Bridgend county borough council, which has a shared service agreement (SSA) with the WJEC, along with other local authorities in Wales.

The SSA pays for access to and support for all the national youth cultural activities they are taking part in.

Coun Huw David, cabinet member for children and young people, said: "I would like to congratulate the young people on their national success. It's fantastic to see these students being rewarded for their hard work. This represents a significant achievement for these talented young people, their local teachers, local music services, and for Bridgend county borough council.

"There is a wealth of talent in the county borough and this recent success proves that we are producing young musicians of a high calibre.

"I wish them all the luck for the future and I hope their success will encourage more youngsters to get involved in music and the performing arts."

For further details about Bridgend Youth Orchestra, please contact 01656 642658.

Hannah Thomas among the cellists.

Funeral of Vale farmer

THE funeral of Vale farmer Mike Thomas is being held at Coychurch Crematoriam at 2.45pm today (Thursday, July 18).

Aged 84, he was a former joint-master of the Glamorgan Hunt at the same time as Lady Boothby and was a keen horseman.

He rode in point-to-points and under National Hunt rules from an early age and some point-to-point enthusiasts may associate him with Drinking Session, Romanza and Abbot's Haven.

He rode in races as a youngster and was 54 when he hung up his race-riding boots. When he retired, he put something back into the sport he loved by becoming a steward and a course inspector.

He also officiated at the Royal Welsh and many other shows in England and Ireland, and was also a permit holder (someone who has a permit to train under rules).

Jim Thomas, who rode against him on many occasions, said: "I will always remember him as someone who was involved with horses all his life.'"

As for myself, I will remember him for his friendly words whenever he saw me at a point-to-point.

BRIAN LEE

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HERE COMES THE SUN...*and the Bridgend Show basked in its glow!*

Photos by **MANDY THOMAS**
(Available for purchase, telephone 07734 384536)
These and other pictures of the event can be viewed on
www.mandythomasphotography.co.uk

For the first time this year, Bridgend Show admitted the public free of charge – and the popular event was rewarded with blue skies and balmy weather on Saturday, at the Pencoed campus of Bridgend College.

Photographer Mandy Thomas was there with her trusty camera to record the fun as everyone basked in the sun!

THE BRYNTIRION COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL STAGES A WIZARD SUCCESS!

PHOTOGRAPHS by RANDELL JOHN (LSWPP)
***www.Randell.JohnPhotography.com* • 01656 662324**

WHILE many were enjoying the heatwave, others opted for *The Wizard of Oz,* performed by pupils of Bryntirion Comprehensive School.

The cast consisted of pupils ranging from year-7 to year-10 and the joy on the young performers' faces, and their stage presence, produced a magical and memorable spellbinding show.

Bryntirion's own 'Dorothy', Jade Bird from year-10, gave an outstanding performance as the heroine, along with Mac Bartlett: Bryntirion's very own Toto.

Of course, there's no *Wizard of Oz* without the famous trio Dorothy finds on her travels in Oz! From year-10, Lauren Coates performed as the Scarecrow, desperate to find a brain; Matthew Daly brought complete professionalism as a year-7 to his role as the Tin Man with no heart; and Harry Grabham from year-10, gave the most memorable and comedic performance as the Cowardly Lion.

However, what good is a show without a decent villain? As the Wicked Witch of the West, Phoebe Spence-Evans from year-9 brought the role to life with a perfectly evil cackle!

The choral group of pupils acting as the famous Munchkins also won praise.

In fact, from the performers to the band, the director to the stage hands and make-up team, every individual involved in Bryntirion's production of *The Wizard of Oz* deserves a round of applause for creating one of the most enjoyable and memorable school productions so far.

Randall John's colourful pictures of the smiling principals and the rest of the talented young cast, capture the exuberance and enthusiasm that producerd a truly magical performance of The Wizard of Oz at Bryntirion Ccmprehensive school.

Katie's *'Tour de Vale'* helps out her school...

ABOVE: Katie Williams with her proud mum, Carrie.

A young pupil was not put off by the searing weekend temperatures, as she tackled a marathon cycle ride to rise funds for her school!

Katie Williams is eight years old and goes to St David's Church in Wales School at Colwinston.

Her mother Carrie told The GEM: "Several weeks ago she came home with the idea of trying to raise money to buy art and craft materials for her school as stocks were running low.

"After much thought she decided that she would try and cycle 20 miles around the Vale, even though she had never cycled that distance before!"

The ride took place on Saturday, July 13, and the route started at near Llandow and continued to Llanmaes, Boverton, Llantwit Major, Marcross, Wick, Llandow again and then finished at St David's School, Colwinston.

Carrie said: "It was the hottest day of the year and the ride took her just over three hours. We survived on water, jelly babies and peanut butter sandwiches!".

Katie's mum's Garmin computer recorded the statistics, and Katie covered 20 miles, climbed a total of 748ft, and her average speed when moving was 9.1 mph.

The maximum temperature reached during the ride was 89.6F.

Carrie Williams said: "In total, Katie has raised £153.50p for her school."

PHILIP IRWIN

IN BRIEF

WELSH Lib-Dem AM for south Wales west, Peter Black, will hold an advice surgery on Friday, July 19 in Maesteg Library from 2pm-3pm. No appointment is necessary.

WI show

THE Glamorgan WI Show will be held in North Cornelly Community Centre and public hall on Saturday, July 27 from 10am-5pm. Refreshments will be on sale throughout the day. Cost of entry, adults £2.50, accompanied children under-10 free.

Laleston take the spoils in annual boules challenge

ABOVE: Unbeaten on the day were the 'Davies' team.

FOR ONCE, the weather was ideal for the annual boules match hosted by Laleston Community Council at the garden of the Blandy Hall.

Bridgend Town Council took on Laleston Community Council, and it was Laleston who triumphed, with a final tally of 3–1.

The undefeated champions of the evening were the very competitive team of the 'Davies' representing Laleston Community Council. They were county borough councillor Pam Davies, with community councillor's Roger Davies and Briony Davies.

ABOVE: Coun Tony Berrow (right), the chairman of Laleston Community Council, commiserates with the losing captain, Coun Haydn Morgan, the Mayor of Bridgend.

Pre-school is on the move at Colwinston

THE preschool at Colwinston is moving from the village hall to a purpose-built classroom in St David's Church in Wales Primary School.

To celebrate the move, the headteacher of St David's, invited pupils from the preschool to take part in a race at last Friday's sports day.

The preschoolers, many of whom will be starting at the reception class in September, ran a hard won race in the glorious sunshine and were rewarded with stickers, ice lollies and cake!

Pupils will start in the new classroom from the start of term in September and to raise money for the Preschool, there will be a yard sale on Sunday July 21 from 12pm in the village hall, Colwinston, where all toys and equipment which are not moving to the new premises will be sold off.

There will be many bargains to be had and staff will be on hand to discuss available places at the preschool which serves Cowbridge, Llandow, Llysworney, Corntown, Ewenny and Colwinston.

ActiveMark Cymru award for Pencoed Primary

ABOVE: Coun Huw David and Jonathan Davies celebrate the school's achievement with pupils.

RIGHT: Pencoed Primary pupils share the news with cabinet member for children and young people Coun Huw David, cabinet member for resources Coun Mike Gregory, local councillor John McCarthy and Pencoed Primary's PE co-ordinator Jonathan Davies.

FOLLOWING British athletes' success at the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, Pencoed primary school is giving pupils a chance to become the next Jessica Ennis, Bradley Wiggins or Ellie Simmonds!

It has been recognised for the high quality of PE and school sport that it delivers to its pupils, by being handed the ActiveMark Cymru (AMC) award, developed by Sport Wales and the Association for Physical Education.

Coun Huw David, BCBC's cabinet member for children and young people, said: "It's fantastic news that Pencoed Primary has been awarded ActiveMark Cymru status. The staff put a great deal of effort into the school's programme of PE and school sport, so the school is fully deserving of this recognition.

"It's important that the county borough's children have the opportunity to take part in a variety of sports, as it helps them to develop key skills that will support their journey through school and beyond.

"The pupils will be too young for Rio 2016, but I'm sure it won't be too long before we see them representing Great Britain at the Olympics."

The school has now been invited to offer its expertise to other local schools who are interested in obtaining the accolade.

Pencoed Primary's PE co-ordinator, Jonathan Davies, said: "We are thrilled here at the school to have secured the AMC status, as we believe that PE and school sport forms a vital area of the curriculum, and is also a great way of engaging all pupils of different abilities.

"The award recognises staff and pupils' shared understanding that high quality PE and school sport play a key role in driving wellbeing within the school.

"Pencoed Primary strongly believes in the spirit of school-to-school support, and would very much like to utilise the expertise within the school to support other schools interested in applying for the award."

New 'fly grazing' law welcomed

THE South Wales Central regional AM, Andrew RT Davies, has welcomed the Welsh Government's announcement that it plans to bring forward legislation to tackle fly grazing in Wales.

Mr Davies, the Welsh Conservative Leader, has long campaigned on the issue and has called for stiffer penalties for those found guilty of it.

He said: "I welcome this announcement, which is frankly long overdue. We need to see an effective solution to this problem, one which has blighted parts of Wales, in particular the Vale and Bridgend in recent years.

"I am also particularly pleased to see that the Minister plans to bring this legislation forward before the end of the year.

"This is an issue for the whole of Wales and that a concerted approach needs to be taken by the Government, in partnership with the relevant enforcement bodies and animal welfare agencies.

"I also hope to see an emphasis on supporting farmers having to contend with the issue of fly grazing and I am hopeful that any new legislation will focus heavily on protecting the rights of land owners."

Mr Davies remains committed to introducing a private members bill to tackle the broader issue of animal welfare and will be seeking to introduce back bench legislation, if he is successful in the ballot which takes place later this week.

He said: "We must provide proper protection for animals and ensure that they receive the care they require and deserve.

"My own bill will seek to improve the quality of life for animals in Wales. It will look at the fit and proper ownership of animals, ensuring minimum standards in terms of the environment in which they are kept, and consolidating and improving existing animal welfare legislation; including abandonment notices."

Recovered body is identified as Hollie

REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN

A body recovered from the sea near Fontygary on Wednesday, July 10, was identified as the missing 14-year-old, Hollie McClymont.

Hollie had last been seen in the water at Whitmore Bay on Sunday afternoon, July 7. She was on holiday in south Wales from her home in Glasgow.

Following the formal identification, the police issued a statement saying that their thoughts were with the family at such a distressing time.

The Assembly Member for the Vale Jane Hutt and Barry Island councillor Steffan Wiliam voiced the despair felt by people in the town too.

Jane Hutt said: "The rescue services and the police have been exemplary in their commitment in the search and support for the family.

"But this is devastating news and our deepest sympathies and thoughts are with the parents of Hollie McClymont for the loss of their beloved daughter in this tragic accident."

Coun Wiliam said: "The nightmare we all feared appears now to have been realised. One can only imagine the deep grief and despair which Hollie's family must feel.

"My thoughts are with them at this time."

Hollie was on Barry Island with friends when she got into difficulty in the water.

After her disappearance was reported to a PCSO on patrol, sea searches were conducted by HM Coastguard and RNLI lifeboats while police conducted enquiries on land.

On Wednesday afternoon, during the search of an area of water by a specialist police search team, Hollie's body was discovered.

She was taken to Llandough Hospital where she was formally identified by her family.

South Wales Police Chief Inspector Marc Lamerton said: "This is obviously a very difficult time for Hollie's family and friends and our thoughts are with them.

"I would like to thank the community of Barry and the media for their support throughout the incident.

"I would also like to acknowledge the efforts and professionalism of the rescue teams who searched for Hollie.

"This tragedy has highlighted the issue of beach safety and while Barry Island is a really safe and enjoyable place to visit, I would urge visitors to heed the advice and swim in the designated areas."

ABOVE: Hollie McClymont.

Hollie's death will be investigated by police on behalf of HM Coroner.

Her headteacher, Andrew McSorley, of St Thomas Aquinas Secondary School in Glasgow, said: "It was a terrible shock to learn of Hollie's death.

"She was due to start fourth year in August and everyone at the school who knew her will be shocked and saddened by this awful news.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with the family as they deal with their devastating loss."

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One-year-old wins the battle for life...

Little Noah, big heart!

Report by **TIM CHAPMAN**

In March this year, a little boy suffering from meningitis had his lower left leg amputated and lost the tips of his fingers and toes.

Noah Stephenson kept fighting, survived and is now looking forward to having his first prosthetic limb.

People in his home town of Barry, were so touched by Noah's story that they are supporting the cause *'Noah's Road2Recovery'* – which will support him in overcoming some of the daunting hurdles he will face in the next few years.

Despite the traumatic start to his life, Noah is able to rely on the love and support of dad Gareth, mum Nicola and brother, Zak (3) in the years ahead.

Gareth told The GEM: "In March this year, Noah was just eight months old, when he contracted meningococcal septicaemia – better known as meningitis – and nearly lost his life.

"In the days that followed, he was saved by the staff at University Hospital of Wales, but as his body battled the terrible virus, he lost circulation to his extremities.

"He was in hospital for six weeks. In order to relieve pressure, his lower left leg was amputated.

"Further still, he lost small parts of the tips of all his fingers and remaining toes.

"We are now doing various fundraising events for his fund so that he can have a financially secure future, to help pay for any rehabilitation, physiotherapy and prosthetic legs he may need – more than likely at the same rate any child may need new shoes!"

Thankfully, Noah is making significant progress.

Gareth said: "He is one-year-old this month and doing fantastically.

"In four to five weeks we hope he will have his first prosthetic leg to get him walking as any other child would do!"

So far family, friends and supporters have raised £10,000 to help Noah, and a major event is planned at the Ty Newydd Public House on Saturday, August 3.

Noah recovering in hospital.

There will be a skittles challenge, a raffle and an auction. Gareth said: "My skittles team, the Cavaliers, will be doing a sponsored skittle marathon to help raise funds for Noah.

"We aim to score 5,000 pins in 12 hours, from 10am in the morning to 10pm in the evening.

"During the day we will be holding a raffle and auctioning some sports memorabilia, including a signed Cardiff City shirt and a signed Lee Selby boxing glove in a glass frame.

"We are inviting people to turn up and challenge us during the day. A team of six will pay £20 and get a one hour slot and a team of 12 will pay £40 and get a two hour slot.

"If any challengers beat the Cavaliers their entry fee will be halved. Their scores will count towards our total.

"As a team, the Cavaliers are getting sponsors from friends and family to reach the 5,000 target in the 12 hours."

To enter a team, people can contact Gareth on 07540 238955 or by email at g.stephenson4@sky.com.

If you would like to make a donation to help Noah, go to: www.gofundme.com/2iyhc8 .

The Coychurch WI plans packed diary

COYCHURCH WI NEWS

FOLLOWING a warm welcome to 29 members by president Sandra Davidson, the business of the evening included: details of the trip to Westonburt Arboretum, GFWI Show in Cornelly Community Centre, the autumn council meeting, the great food debate workshop, the Royal Welsh winter fayre, and Operation Christmas Child.

It was suggested that an afternoon craft group be formed to include young mothers etc to learn and pass on new skills within the group.

Due to the inclement weather, the raspberry picking will now take place at the end of July.

Members and invited guests thoroughly enjoyed the 95th anniversary garden party held recently in Bryngarw Park. Congratulations and thank you cards were received from Coity WI and Caroline and the board of trustees.

Tickets are now available for the Coychurch Ladies (friends of WI) charity supper concert to be held on September 25 in the Williams Memorial Hall.

Tickets cost £12, to include a hot meal with dessert; entertainment with singer Natasha John.

The proceeds of the evening will be donated to the Velindre Hospital appeal.

Sandra thanked everyone who sponsored her in 'The Walk for Life'; she raised the magnificent sum of £473.

A letter of thanks was received from Mrs Hurry, headteacher of Llangrallo School, in appreciation of all the help given with the recent school carnival.

Forthcoming events.

September 10, Forest Jump, Celtic Manor Resort;

September 19, Federation Quiz, Hi Tide Inn, Porthcawl;

September 23, Bead Gate Bracelet, Federation House, Port Talbot;

September 16/17, Houses of Parliament and Kensington Palace, London;

September 25, Southgate Walk, Gower;

October 24, Federation dinner (guest Mike Doyle) Hi Tide Inn, Porthcawl.

For further details, contact Sandra, 01656 669232.

The next meeting will be on September 3, at 7.30pm in the Williams Memorial Hall.

'Ships' Surgeon' will be the topic of guest speaker Roger Morgan. Guests and new members welcome.

New schemes give vital boost to plan for affordable homes

GUEST COLUMN

by ***Jane Hutt AM***
(Minister for Finance and Leader of the House)

THE need for affordable housing is a priority for the Welsh Government and the announcement I made earlier this year of an extra £20 million to build one and two-bedroomed properties, was well received.

The Vale of Glamorgan Council and local authorities across Wales welcomed the news, as did registered social landlords, such as Newydd Housing Association, who are currently having to wait for the seagulls 'to hatch,' before completing the demolition of the former Magistrates Court, which I was very involved in campaigning to keep here in Barry.

However, it is very good news indeed that Newydd is able to access Welsh Government social housing grant to help build 52 much-needed new homes in the heart of Barry on this key site, contributing to the regeneration of Barry as well as meeting housing need.

It was good to hear the chief executive say that despite the pause for the seagulls, the project will be on time for delivery of these homes as planned!

Housing developments, such as Jacksons Quay and the new Extra Care Centre in Barry, provide affordable homes at a high standard, meeting the Welsh housing quality standard.

OUTDATED

Our successful negotiations with the Treasury has resulted in an end to the outdated and expensive housing revenue account subsidy for local authorities, such as the Vale Council, who will be able to access funds to continue the upgrading of their social housing in the county.

This is a positive outcome of intergovernmental negotiations between the Welsh Government and the UK Government, which I have been engaged in as Finance Minister.

We are also supporting a new scheme 'Houses into Homes,' which should see at least 900 units of empty houses brought back into use, with £20m funding of Welsh Government via a loan scheme. The interim evaluation is extremely positive about the scheme so far.

Working very closely with our housing and regeneration Minister, Carl Sargeant AM, I am determined to support him in meeting the Welsh Government's target of delivering 7,500 affordable new homes. Investment in housing is one of our seven key priorities in the Wales Infrastructure Investment Plan. We have taken steps as a Government, to boost investment in affordable housing by more than £400 million.

We are also committing £4 million every year for 30 years to support registered social landlords in generating over £100 million of investment which will finance more than 1,000 affordable homes over a four year period – our new housing bond.

This innovative investment has been recognised outside Wales as an example of Government taking the initiative in partnership with housing providers.

We have a clear commitment and responsibility to boost the provision of affordable housing in Wales. We are also committed to helping people take steps to buy and the Housing Minister is making a statement on housing support this week which includes options for 'shared equity' ownership models.

However, the development of one and two bedroomed properties has been a direct response to the impact of the UK Government's 'Bedroom Tax,' which is having a negative impact on many households as they struggle to meet the costs of higher rents.

There are not enough smaller flats and houses for people to move into, if they have been hit by this new tax, and there is deepening concern about the levels of debt that are accruing in many households across Wales.

I have also raised our concerns with the UK Government about the negative impact of this new tax compounded by the new arrangements for payment of housing benefit that does not allow for 'payment direct' to the landlord – which is very difficult for low income families and will adversely impact on social housing providers.

Alongside our support for housing, we are also joining all those who are supporting those in housing need such as Shelter, who run advice services alongside the Citizens Advice Bureaux in the Vale of Glamorgan and we are boosting our support for advice and information services, working with our local authorities to support vulnerable people in our communities.

Festival's musical magic at Ewenny Priory church

EWENNY Arts Festival has held two concerts within a week, a charity concert for the Llanfair unit, and an evening of violin and piano with Sara Trickey and Daniel Tong.

The charity concert on July 5, organised by Bridgend sisters, Ruth and Catherine Felton was to raise much-needed funds to purchase art and music supplies for the acute adult mental health facility at Llandough Hospital and raised £500.

The evening, which ended with a standing ovation, was an eclectic mix of musical styles, encompassing both the classical and contemporary.

Opening with the first movement of Mozart's 'Eine Kleine Nachtmusik', the programme proceeded through composers as diverse as Pachelbel and Lloyd Webber, Telemann and Cole Porter, Lennon/McCartney and Vaughan Williams.

The night concluded with all artistes combining their talents in a show-stopping rendition of 'For Good' from Stephen Shwartz's stage musical *Wicked*.

Performances, in addition to instrumentalists Ruth and Catherine, were by string quartet Ni'n Pedwar and sopranos Helen Davies and Rosie Howarth – former members of The National Youth Orchestra of Wales and BBC Chorus.

This was followed on July 11 by another magical evening, once again spanning musical eras: romantic, baroque and modern.

Given the ambient lighting and wonderful acoustics of the Priory Church in combination with Trickey's beautifully-refined tone and Tong's precision this was a truly beautiful evening's entertainment.

The programme included Beethoven's 'Spring Sonata', Faure's 'Romance', together with Schubert, Spiegel and Kreisler.

Solo violinist and Chamber musician, Trickey, studied at the Royal College of Music, at Cambridge University and the San Francisco Conservatory of Music.

Tong, another soloist and Chamber musician who studied piano at the Royal College of Music and at The Guildhall in London has performed and subsequently been broadcast worldwide.

This is to be followed by the next Ewenny Arts Festival Event – An Evening with the Hennessys on Thursday, September 19 at 7.30pm.

Details available via web-site www.ewenny festival.co.uk or via its facebook page www.fecebook.com/EwennyArtsFestival1.

Changing face of the Severn

NEWS FROM THE SKER WI

THE July meeting of Sker WI was held recently at St David's Church Hall, Nottage, when president Nora Williams welcomed members.

Karl-James Langford of Archaeology Cymru gave a talk on 'Last prehistoric landscapes', describing how the landscape had changed over the years.

He said that going back 18,000 years, the Severn Estuary was non-existent, and there was no human habitation until 11,000 years ago.

Eventually Britain become an island and people started to settle near the river Severn.

The craft group and other members are busy getting ready for the forthcoming Glamorgan Show.

Our summer fayre is being held at Trinity Church Hall this Friday, July 19, at 10am.

The next meeting will be on September 12, when the speaker will be Captain Jones, on 'Experiences of World War Two U-Boats'. Anyone wishing to join us is very welcome.

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The GEM
News, Sport, Letters, Features, What's On, Jobs, Motors....

Pendoylan pupils have a great sports day

PENDOYLAN Church-in-Wales Primary School recently held its sports day on what turned out to be a glorious summer's day.

The children, staff and parents alike, all enjoyed a wonderful time and, after a hot afternoon of sprinting, sack races and even a parents' tug of war competition, the eventual winners were the Red team.

The trophy was awarded to team captains Iestyn and Darcy, who were particularly excited, as the Reds hadn't won for a number of years.

So congratulations to all the Pendoylan runners and racers and good luck for next year! **DJ**

ABOVE:
The Reds' team captains Iestyn and Darcy with the shield.

The GEM is in partnership with the Dog's Trust to find caring homes for animals at the Trust's Bridgend Rehoming Centre.
(TELEPHONE: 01656 725219)

'BOUNCER' is a three-year-old Mastiff x Rottie, a handsome boy looking for an adult-only home, with owners who are used to big dogs.

He loves his treats, and enjoys training with his carers and learning new tricks. He would like to be the only dog in the home while he is still working on his socialising – but he is quickly getting better at mixing with other dogs while with us.

He visited our summer show a few weeks ago and was excellent around all the dogs that were there.

He can be left for a few hours, and is house-trained. We would like his new owner to visit him at the rehoming centre a few times before taking him home, and we will be on hand to help with his ongoing training.

He will make a very loyal and rewarding companion for the right person.

For any more information about Bouncer, or any of the other dogs looking for homes, please call us on 01656 725219 or pop into Dogs Trust, Court Colman, Pen-y-fai, Bridgend, CF31 4NG. Our opening hours are Tues – Sun 12 – 4, and late night opening on a Weds until 7.30pm.

LINDA FEAGAN
(Supporter Relations Officer – Bridgend)

'BOUNCER'

Village opposition to plan for a camp site

Report by PHILIP IRWIN

A ROW has broken out over plans to expand a camping site in a field behind a Vale coastal pub.

Last year, The Three Golden Cups in Southerndown trialled a scheme for a summer camp site behind the pub – catering in the main for people who wanted easy access to nearby surfing beaches.

Encouraged by the response last year, the site has now put a planning application into the Vale Council, looking to establish a 50-pitch camp site, together with "ancillary facilities and associated works", that will operate between March 15 and October 31.

However, at a recent packed meeting of the St Bride's Community Council, it was decided to oppose the plan.

Coun Audrey Preston, who is the Vale councillor for the area, told The GEM that she had never seen so many people turn out for a community council meeting, and that the mood of the meeting was very much against.

Local resident, Ian Lock, spoke to The GEM and said that the site was unsuitable because it was in the middle of the village, and that even with an average of five tents a night last year, there had been instances of noise and nuisance.

He said: "There are about 200 people in the village, and this could effectively double the population."

He added that last year, it had been promoted as a site which was ideal for surfing and for its proximity to a pub.

However, the landlord of the Three Golden Cups, Alun Williams, put up a determined defence when he spoke to The GEM.

He said: "This year, we have been around 70 per cent capacity, and most of those staying have been families."

Mr Williams acts only as a booking agent for the campsite, but the proximity of guests who buy drinks and meals has clearly boosted trade.

He said that a lot of people valued a quiet country pub, but pointed out that if it was quiet all year round, the pub would not survive: "We do 80 per cent of our business in the months between June and September, and the increased business from the camp site has enabled us to take on two new staff, both of whom live locally.

"The winter just passed was the worst ever, and it was a real struggle because the weather stayed poor for so long."

He added that he thought that local people were aiming at the wrong target, and that a controlled camp site would benefit the area.

He said: "There is a big problem with 'fly camping' in the area at the moment, and this leaves the Vale Council having to clear rubbish left behind by campers.

"What is more, the visitors to this camp site park here, and don't add to the gridlock we get along the coast road on sunny days."

The planning application is due to go before the council on July 25, and Mr Lock told The GEM that he hoped the council would apply its own policy, which was not to allow new camping sites within the Heritage Coast.

He said residents were also objecting to a new access point to the campsite, which would mean that a section of an existing stone wall would be knocked down. At the moment, campers enter the camp site through the pub's car park.

Mr Lock added that he had a longer-term worry, because he was concerned that if permission was granted to build toilet blocks and other facilities, it could open the door, some time in the future, for a planning application to build houses on the site.

Alun Williams, of the Three Golden Cups, said that he was disappointed with the opposition, and said that a thriving local pub was important to any small community.

He said: "We have plans to open a small shop here, that would sell local produce and other goods, which will help the village economy."

The application has been made by two local businessmen, Roger Thomas and Peter Davies, and Mr Thomas said: "We were encouraged to develop this camp site by the Vale Council, who identified a need for this type of site.

"We recognise that there will be opinions regarding whatever happens to the field, but we have followed the advice of Vale Council planners, and the matter will now be decided by the council's planning committee."

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Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Branch Manager Phil Powell feels that it's all about service. 'Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done. We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole."

Cloudy2Clear service the Vale, Bridgend, RCT and Porthcawl areas and Phil is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. *'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'*

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Phil a call for a free quotation on **0800 61 21 118** and he'll be happy to help!

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FREE FAMILY EVENTS EVERY WEEKEND AT BARRY ISLAND

20 & 21 July
The Isle of Fire

Barry Island will be transformed into a lost island Fire Garden. Explore this fiery landscape inspired by tales of the deep, where legends of fire breathing flowers, enchanted glowing trees and a Viking ghost ship long lost in time are all brought to life. From dusk each day.

27 & 28 July
Street Dance

Featuring Team Extreme performances and workshops on Sat and Sun. Sunday will be packed with performances from local groups from Motion Control Dance. 11am to 4pm each day.

3 & 4 August
Street Art

Let loose your artistic flair by drawing on the mini cubes along the prom or try the free graffiti workshops. All ages welcome - 11am to 4pm each day.

10 & 11 August
Zapcats

Fast and furious Zapcat powerboat action. The adrenalin- pumped racing will take place on both days from 11am.

Bring a picnic and a blanket and enjoy some music before the film starts.

17 & 18 August
Seaside Sport

Enjoy a host of sports by the sea. Take part in Beach Volleyball, Disability sports and Beach cricket. Try your skills on the surf simulator and the climbing wall and explore the Play Village. The England Beach Soccer Team will also be on the beach. The event will end with Zumba on the Prom with Andrea - Sunday at 5pm.

24 & 25 August
Cinema by the Sea

Enjoy an evening of cinema by the sea
Saturday from 8.30pm
BACK TO THE FUTURE
Sunday from 8.30pm
GREASE SING-A-LONG

VALE of GLAMORGAN
BRO MORGANNWG

All events take place along the prom or Island Gardens. Please note events may change at short notice. For more information please call 01446 704737 or go to www.visitthevale.com

Charity's praise for Eileen's 'courage and commitment'

FRIENDS and family were joined by Vale AM, Jane Hutt, at the Fox and Hounds in St Brides Major to congratulate Eileen Matthews on winning an award from the Stroke Association,

It honours her courage and commitment in supporting those who, like herself, have suffered from strokes, often at an early age.

The AM commented: "Having suffered two strokes, Eileen has a clear understanding of the needs of others and she has overcome great adversity with courage and commitment.

"I am delighted that the Stroke Association has recognised this with her award."

Eileen (right) with the AM in St Brides Major.

Fire Service proposes changes to stations in the Vale and Bridgend

A REVIEW which addresses how South Wales Fire and Rescue Service operates across the Vale and Bridgend areas, could see major changes to how local stations are run.

In Cowbridge, it is proposed that full time firefighters could be moved to other stations and replaced by 'on-call' firefighters.

The review states that over the last 10 years in Cowbridge, for a number of reasons, there have been fewer emergencies.

It goes on: *"The area around Cowbridge is quite low risk and when there is an emergency, another fire engine from a different fire station usually gets there first.*

"This means we have more full-time firefighters than we really need to make sure everyone in Cowbridge stays safe."

In Barry, the review has proposed that there should be one fire engine with five full time firefighters and another engine with five 'on call' firefighters.

The rationale behind that suggestion, says the review, is: *"We have two fire engines at Barry Fire Station. There are five full-time firefighters on each fire engine.*

"Over the last 10 years, for lots of different reasons, the number of emergencies they have attended has got less and less.

"This means we have more full-time firefighters than we really need to make sure everyone in Barry is safe."

In Bridgend a new fire station could be built in South Cornelly to replace the stations in Kenfig Hill and Porthcawl.

The review explains: "*Our firefighters do not attend the same number of emergencies in the Bridgend area as they used to.*

"This means we have more fire engines and firefighters than we really need to keep everyone safe.

"By carefully choosing a location between the two fire stations we can provide more efficient protection with only a very small statistical increase in risk.

"We will continue to work even harder with the local community to reduce the number of emergencies we attend. This will reduce the risk further and save more lives in the Bridgend area."

Huw Jakeway, Chief Fire Officer at South Wales Fire and Rescue Service said: *"The Fire Cover Review will be reviewing the whole service area, but this will take place in three stages; stage one will look at the the Vale, Bridgend and Cardiff authorities.*

"The review looks at the location, number and type of resources within each of our authorities including firefighters' vehicles, equipment and fire stations – that are needed, and where they should be located to provide the most efficient and effective and safest fire and rescue service across south Wales.

"Any proposed changes to those resources will be consulted upon with our employees, the public and partners.

"This essential feedback from this consultation will be taken to our Fire and Rescue Authority for agreement before moving on to stage two of the Fire Cover Review."

• If anyone wants to respond to the review proposals, they can send their views to Freepost RSAU-CCXG-XKAS, South Wales Fire & Rescue Service, Unit 2, Forest View Business Park, Llantrisant, Pontyclun, CF72 8LX; or email: haveyoursay@southwales-fire.gov.uk

NEWS IN BRIEF

REGISTRATION for this summer's Free Play 4 Life has been extended, so children can now be signed up until tomorrow (Friday July 19).

Taking place in community venues across Bridgend county borough, the sessions encourage children aged eight to 11 to take part in a variety of sports, play and craft activities.

Now in its fourth year, Play 4 Life is funded by local town and community councils and is run by Bridgend council's Active Young People department in partnership with Halo Leisure.

Three-to-seven-year-olds can enjoy 'Mini Play 4 Life' for just £2.50 a session.

Herb garden flourishes

COSMESTON medieval village has a flourishing herb garden again – thanks to staff and volunteers who spent six months nurturing the medieval garden back to full strength.

Over 20 different varieties of herbs and spices include elderflower, rosemary, borage, comfrey, St John's wort and lavender.

The cottage-sized herb garden was left unmanaged for over a year due to staff reorganisation, but is now being tended by the team.

Cosmeston medieval village is open seven days a week, 10am – 4pm. Entry is free; however, if you'd like to upgrade your visit to a guided tour by one of the costumed guides, there is a charge of £2.50 per person. Tours run every day at 12pm; 1.30pm and 3pm.

Open gardens

THE 17th 'Open Gardens Trail' takes place in Penarth on Saturday July 27 (from 10am – 6pm); and on Sunday July 28 (from 12 noon – 5pm).

Eight gardens and the Sully Terrace allotments will be open. Admission to all gardens is £5; children admitted free.

Some addresses where ttickets may be purchased: 68, Redlands Road, Penarth; 77, Coleridge Avenue; 82, Plymouth Road; 18, Evenlode Avenue; 123, Westbourne Road and 4, Tudor Close, Westbourne Road, Penarth.

Contact Ann Lush (02920 703547), or email:ann@lush.eu.com for full details.

All proceeds to the Children's Society.

Vale church that changed direction shuts doors – but God's work goes on

ON Sunday July 28, following a final service of celebration at 3pm, the doors of Ebenezer URC in Llantwit Major will close for the last time after 198 years .

Some five weeks before the Battle of Waterloo, the Consistory Court at Llandaff licensed a house called Ebenezer in Colhugh Street as an Independent Calvinistic meeting place, naming Watkin Watkin as the minister.

There is a tradition that a group of non-Conformists had been ejected from St Donat's some 60 years before and, having moved to Llantwit Major, had made slow but steady progress to such an extent that they were in a position to acquire a property for use as a place of worship.

Whether there is any truth to this story or not, the house became the first non-Conformist chapel in the town, though not in the parish as Bethesda'r Fro holds that honour.

The Tithe Map of 1839 confirms that there were three houses in the row, so the congregation had a home but it soon lost its leader, who left for America. Consequently it scattered, many joining Bethesda. The church was closed and almost sold to the Baptists.

There followed a number of attempts to revive fortunes but it was not until the arrival of Rev Morgan Morgan from Blaenavon that things began to look up. Initially, he came to minister to Bethesda and Nurston (Rhoose) chapels, but was persuaded to take on the resurrection of Ebenezer.

He was a remarkable man for he was able to clear the church's considerable debts within months and proceeded to oversee the three chapels for nigh on 40 years, preaching in English at Ebenezer and Welsh at the other two.

All this and running the Post Office in Boverton as well.

He died on Sunday March 15 1874, whilst travelling between the chapels. One obituary described him as a "very edifying and sweet preacher".

Ebenezer was flourishing as was the tie between it and Bethesda for the three ministers who followed all served both chapels. It was during the time of Rev John Llewellyn that the congregation began to express dissatisfaction with their enlarged house which ran parallel to Beach Road, especially as it had a smaller capacity than Bethesda.

However, the members had a typically Victorian attitude to debt and though they raised funds through eisteddfodau, concerts and bazaars, they were still well short.

Llewellyn finally persuaded them to ask for loans and the foundation stone was laid in November 1905, in atrocious weather.

The builder was a local man – John Chatterton and it took until 1916 to clear the debt. The church was turned around and now faced at right angles to the Beach Road.

Throughout the 1920s and 30s the congregation remained strong and the ministers promoted activities for young people across the Vale. In order to attract ministers it was decide to go into debt again and build a manse on Boverton Road.

The house was called 'Bro Dawel' and it survived until the 1970s, when it was demolished to make way for The Precinct.

During World War Two Bethesda was only open intermittently because of the security demands of RAF St Athan and it struggled to re-establish itself.

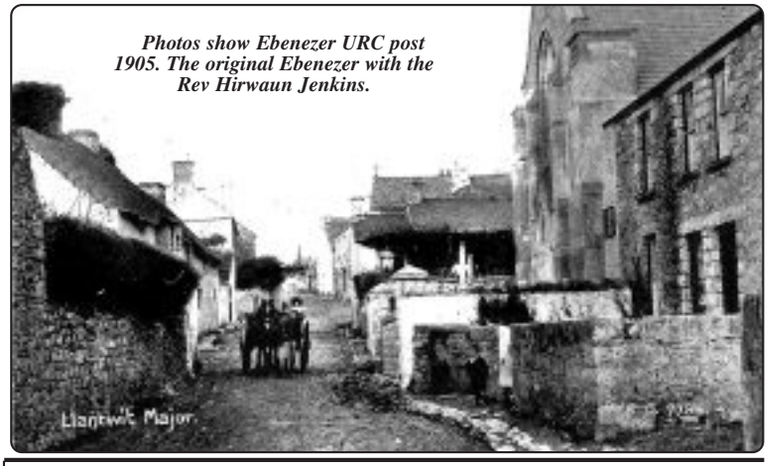
During the 1950s and 60s Ebenezer began to experience a decline in numbers. The Congregational Church combined with other denominations to form The United Reformed Church and the ties between Ebenezer and Bethesda were finally broken in 1974, when the latter was encouraged to go it alone with the assistance of the RAF.

Over the 108 years of its existence, the present building has not just been a place of worship. It housed the YMCA during World War Two, a class from the overcrowded school and, more recently, a nursery. And how many men based at RAF Llandow or St Athan have wed their sweethearts within its walls?

Sadly, the economics of maintaining a building have become prohibitive for a small congregation, especially one that is no longer young. The difficult decision to close the church was made, but the congregation intends to move en-bloc and join Bethesda'r Fro where it has been worshipping for more than 10 years, thus cementing a link which was established more than 150 years ago.

That is why the service on July 28, to which all are invited, will be one of celebration, for God's work will go on.

NIGEL WILLIAMS



Photos show Ebenezer URC post 1905. The original Ebenezer with the Rev Hirwaun Jenkins.

Record numbers attend the family fun day at Ty Hafan

A RECORD number of 2,500 people flocked to Ty Hafan's family fun day, held at its stunning facility on the edge of the Bristol Channel in Sully.

A few famous faces were spotted during the day, including Cardiff Blues' captain Andries Pretorius and his wife Rosie along with Casualty star Patrick Robinson, who raised £1,000 for Ty Hafan when he appeared on ITV's All Star Family Fortunes the night before.

This year's fun day, sponsored by Dow Corning, offered something for everyone, from classic car displays to fairground rides, live entertainment, a climbing wall and market stalls...

...not forgetting the fantastic animal displays, including birds of prey, police dogs and horses, as well as special visits from Star Wars characters, Captain Jack Sparrow and Hello Kitty!

Members of the care services team were on hand throughout the day to guide visitors around the hospice, showing them the amazing facilities on offer to life-limited children, young people and their families.

"We had the best turnout and we're so pleased so many people came along to show their support," said Ty Hafan's event organiser Jessica Morgan. "There was such a fantastic atmosphere during the day and it was so wonderful to see everyone enjoying themselves.

"The fun day is a great opportunity for us to be able to show the general public around and bring them up to speed with the breadth of services we offer.

"I would also like to say a huge thank you to Dow Corning for sponsoring the event, our volunteers for all their hard work, as well as all those who came along and made it our best fun day to date."

To see a video of the fun day visit: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qW3ltFG7STA&list=PLjShwG1xwRGNz27ydFSVwrjjlhJNnU0TR

For more information about Ty Hafan visit www.tyhafan.org.

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LLANCARFAN PRIMARY'S WELCOME HOME FOR ITS MARATHON CHARITY 'PELOTON'

LLANCARFAN Primary School's recent summer fair had two reasons to celebrate.

First, it was a chance to welcome home headteacher Colin Smith and six Llancarfan pupils' dads from their successful 'Killarney to Llancarfan' charity bike ride...

The second reason to celebrate was that the school was now assured of its future, after a proposal to close it, which came to light several months ago, was dropped

More than 250 people came together on the school field in the glorious sunshine to enjoy a barbecue and to spend their pennies at the many stalls put together by pupils.

With a choice from cakes, crafts, plants and sweets to craft making, coconut shy and fossil hunting, everyone was kept busy during the afternoon!

A disco followed for pupils while parents continued to enjoy the sunshine. The PTA, staff and pupils all did a fantastic job once again to make Llancarfan summer fair a great success, with all the cash raised going towards vital school equipment.

WELCOME HOME

Mr Smith and his six fellow cyclists had returned earlier in the week. The 300-mile charity had a target of raising £4,000 for the school PTA and the 'Dreams and Wishes' charity.

The head, alongside Paul Rebhan, Oli Spencer, Roger Phelps, Paul Clancy, Ian McMeechan, and Derek Evans had returned to a celebration in the historic St Cadoc's churchyard, a fitting end to a bike ride, which closely followed the pilgrimage route taken by Saint Cadoc.

Pedalling on average 75 miles a day, the team made good progress, managing to call in on the school\s Comenius partners at Glenfesk School, Killarney and also visiting Lismore Castle.

There were a few minor injuries en-route but no major set-backs.

The fundraising total is still to be confirmed, but the team are confident they will have reached their £4,000 target.

"We have had so much support from everyone at the school and the local community" said Paul Rebhan

"It was a very emotional welcome home and lovely to see our families and friends lining the path through St Cadoc's churchyard.

"We would also like to say a big thank you to our support drivers, Steve Vink and Arwyn Rees, who managed to keep track of us along the way."

Mr Colin Smith, added "We have been overwhelmed by the support and hope to continue with our fundraising efforts next year –with a bike ride from Land's End to John O'Groats.

"Our chosen charity this year, Dreams and Wishes, does an amazing job of supporting seriously ill children and their families, and we look forward to announcing our total raised and presenting them with a cheque."

ABOVE:
The cyclists arrive back at at St Cadoc's Church, in Llancarfan.

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Monsters University passes screen test

PIXAR, while easily the most innovative animation studio on the block, have never been afraid to go back to the well and attempt to improve on the original (just see *Toy Story 2* and *3*).

With a *Finding Nemo* sequel also on the horizon, the studio have entered prequel territory with *Monsters University*. Set before 2001's *Monsters Inc*, it sees Sulley and Mike (voiced by John Goodman and Billy Crystal) in their student days, as they meet in the same fraternity; however, the polar opposites don't exactly hit it off in a rivalry that will tear their world apart but eventually bring them together...

Very often, returning to the scene of your past glories indicates that the creative well is running dry; this is something that even applies to Pixar, the previously-imperious studio showing the faintest chink in their armour (particularly with *Cars 2* and the decent but standard *Brave*).

It's understandable, then, that given the popular reception afforded their *Toy Story* sequels, that they would take another trip down sequel (or, in this case, prequel) lane with another of their hugely popular creations, *Monsters Inc*.

The original was a huge success, and made for a hugely entertaining film, but 12 years later do the characters warrant a revisit? The answer is a positive one, but anyone expecting a seismic experience like Pixar have usually delivered will feel let down.

That isn't to say *Monsters University* doesn't entertain, but it feels more like an above average direct-to-DVD follow-up rather than a cinematic effort.

As usual, the film looks fantastic, and the 3D (something recent box office figures indicate is a craze on the wane) gives you a rich depth, while the story itself plays as an intriguing look at how Mike and Sulley became the best buddies that we meet in *Monsters Inc*.

Like the usual Pixar fare, the gag rate is pretty rapid and the majority stick, but skewering far more to the younger audience, lacking the bite for grown-ups that usual goes hand in hand with the material, especially when the college setting riffs so heavily on the likes of *Revenge Of The Nerds* and *Animal House*.

A few more well-aimed gags in that vein would have been a welcome site rather than the 'anyone can achieve their dreams' moral that permeates the story a little too much.

The nature of a prequel does mean that a certain amount of suspense and peril goes out the window, and if the references to the toxicity of children and the danger they pose comes off as half-baked, knowing what we know, there are a few clever twists before we get to the present day with the presence of several characters from *Monsters Inc* slipped in with minimal jarring, not feeling shoehorned at all.

The vocal cast are impressive, with John Goodman and Billy Crystal falling back into their roles like it hasn't been 12 years, while new additions Helen Mirren and Nathan Fillion (to name but two) bring a nice amount of gusto the vocal booth.

While you can't fault the laughs it generates and also the way it cleverly develops the franchise's universe, there is just something about *Monsters University* that feels like it's stuck in fourth gear, not quite getting to top speed; anyone who likes *Monsters Inc*, or Pixar films generally, will find much to enjoy but it won't light your fire in the way *Up* or *Toy Story 3* do.

VERDICT: Nowhere near the weakest of their output (*Cars, Cars 2*) but not quite up there with their best either,

by GARETH JAMIESON
Follow Screen Talk on Twitter – @GEMScreenTalk

Monsters University is a satisfying and pleasing film that has likeable characters, good jokes and an engaging story.

It feels like there's something missing just to push it over the edge into greatness, but as it stands, it's a good film. *Enjoyable*.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Monsters Inc* (2001), *Toy Story 2* (2000).

NEWS FROM THE FONMON APIARY

Bees take priority over honey harvest

THE year 2013 is now half gone, and the bees that came through the winter are looking very well.

As of yet, I have not had any of them swarming but with the drier and warmer conditions that are prevailing, I have already answered calls to swarms in Cardiff, Penarth, Barry and Wick.

Of these, I have introduced two into the apiary here at Fonmon. Others have been passed on to beginners who have not been able to purchase bees this year.

How do those new to the craft of beekeeping get established? Well, the usual route would be the purchase of a nucleus of bees, but the dramatic loss of bees nationwide this past winter has meant that not many packages of bees have been offered for sale.

What is a nucleus? It is a Queen bee accompanied by several thousand worker bees in a smaller version of the standard hive (the national type hive is a much-used pattern).

Given fair weather, the Queen in this nucleus will start to lay eggs and the development of these eggs into new bees means that the nucleus is building up in bee numbers, and therefore will require to be moved into a full size hive (the national).

From this small beginning, the new beekeeper may well wish to have an apiary holding two or three colonies, and given that bees do swarm, he/she could well become retrievers of swarms themselves, and hence an apiary develops.

Many of the requests to tackle swarms have turned out to be bumblebees, and bird boxes have been much-favoured sites. The removal of the boxes and their occupants has not been too difficult, and re-locating has met with some success.

However, some of the bumblebees have occupied spaces where getting at them was not really viable i.e. under decking, in loft spaces, under sheds and in compost bins.

No damage is caused by bumblebees occupying these spaces, and remember they, like the honeybee, are pollinators. So if the bees are not causing you any inconvenience, leave them where they are, as they will eventually die off. Unlike honeybees, they do not survive over the winter. So, how do bumblebees keep the species going? Well, all of the nest occupants die off except for several females that have been designated to be the Queens for the following year.

These females will leave the nest site as individuals and find a place to hibernate and will start a new colony elsewhere in the following spring.

Will I get honey this year? I live in hope, but the welfare of the bees is my main concern, and their need for honey far outweighs mine. July is forecast to be okay weather wise, and the pollinating insects will certainly appreciate it.

The varroa mite is still a major problem for beekeepers, and on the horizon we have the Asian hornet (a predator of bees). It is not with us yet, but it is only a matter of time, because it is well established in France due to transporting commodities around the world.

As if this wasn't enough, we have the threat of the small hive beetle lurking in the wings (a South African bee predator) and this will also eventually appear.

Many challenges lie ahead, and the established and new beekeepers must meet them. The invaders I have mentioned are, in particular, parasites of honeybees and not of other pollinators.

HAROLD WILLIAMS

Train takes strain for Penarth and District Ramblers

RECENTLY, the group had the pleasure of leaving cars at home, the Vale railway dropping them off at destinations for two enjoyable coastal walks.

The first saw 15 walkers including Anna and daughter Jenny from America joining Joy for the journey to Llantwit Major, where they spent some time exploring St Illtud's Church before following Church Lane and overgrown paths to make their way down into Tresilian Bay to Reynard's Cave, where they enjoyed some swashbuckling smugglers' tales before returning to the cliff walking east along the Wales Coast Path to Llantwit Major.

After coffee, they continued past Stout Point to Summerhouse Point, viewing the summerhouse within an Iron Age hill fort before continuing to Limpert Bay passing Aberthaw Power Station to enjoy lunch at Pleasant Harbour.

Climbing to Fontygary Caravan Park, they journeyed on in hot sunshine to pass through the caravan park at Porthkerry, before dropping downhill for cooling ices at Porthkerry Park to fortify them for the journey up through Cliffwood and through the town to Barry railway station and the homeward journey.

The second was a 20-mile mid-week celebratory tramp for the group's 20th year when four keen walkers joined Joy on the train this time to Bridgend on a boiling hot day and following the River Ogmore they crossed Newbridge Fields then meadows to Merthyr Mawr stopping on the beach at Traeth yr Afon for refreshments.

Reaching Merthyr Mawr with its lovely church, delightful thatched cottages and ruined castle, they crossed the river to climb up onto Ogmore Down and at St Brides Major headed downhill through fields and woods to Dunraven for lunch in the walled garden.

The passage across three lovely clean beaches with a cooling breeze was fantastic and climbing at Nash Point they followed the cliff path through St Donat's and Tresilian Bay back to Llantwit beach. After cooling ice creams and a drink at the Swan, thankfully they were able to rest tired feet and bodies on the train journey back.

On July 20 (note the change of walk) meet 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a nine-mile moderate historical Romans and Celts ramble; contact Barbara on 01446 794313.

On July 21, meet at 9.30am at Cogan for a nine-mile hard walk taking in Fan Brycheiniog and Llyn y Fan Fawr; contact Robin on 029 2051 4051.

On July 23, meet at 8am at Cogan for a 15-mile hard walk at Llanthony Priory, the Honddu and Olchen valleys; contact William on 01446 747239.

On July 25, the evening ramble will leave Rhoose railway station at 7pm for a 4.5-mile easy/moderate walk at Rhoose and East Aberthaw; contact Joy on 01446 737131.

Programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2025 5102.

Joy Strangward

Butterflies, waves, and the Can Can!

MEMBERS of Sully U3A were treated to 'A Musical Lucky Dip' by member Clive Sims at their July meeting.

Clive has a vast experience of teaching music and is an accomplished pianist and organist and shared a collection of music and songs ranging from Offenbach's 'Barcarolle' to Paul McCartney's 'Yesterday'.

The members were asked to shut their eyes and imagine a butterfly flitting around the garden, while listening to Grieg's 'Butterfly', imagine the waves ebbing and flowing while listening to 'Ebb Tide'; and feel free to join in the Can Can!

Clive gave a pen picture of the various composers with anecdotes which gave an insight into their compositions and was thanked by chairman, Gill Mathias.

Sully U3A's next meeting will be on Thursday, August 8 at 2pm, in The Old School, South Road, Sully. This will be an open afternoon when the various interest groups will display and talk about their activities.

Non-members are welcome to drop in and see what U3A has to offer.

SC

VALEPLUS CHALLENGE

THE ValePlus charity, which provides training and lifelong learning for adults with learning disabilities, is organising the ValePlus Challenge on Saturday, September 14 from 10am-3pm.

It is a team challenge (maximum of three) to navigate around the Barry area, following instructions, looking for clues, and completing challenges.

There will be prizes for categories including pub, sports, three generation and business teams.

Teams must register in advance. For full information, see www.valeplus.org.uk or email melanie@valeplus.org.uk (or call 01446 746691).

SUMMER PRAISE

RIGHT: Samantha Taylor and husband Peter, with Matthew and Rose.

ON Sunday July 7, Deacon Samantha Taylor (minister in the Vale Circuit) was received into the Methodist Connexion of Britain and ordained as a Deacon at Southwark Cathedral during the Methodist conference in London.

Her family and friends from the Methodist Churches in Barry, Penarth and St Athan were present at the service.

Adventure cruise holiday clubs (for primary age children) are again taking place in the Vale Methodist circuit. Dates/venues are: July 23, 24, 25 (10am – 12.30) at St John Methodist Church, Barry Island.

On July 28 (11am) there will be a Holiday club themed Service for all ages. July 29, 30, 31 (10am – 12.30pm) at The Gathering Place Church and Community Centre.

For full details contact Deacon Sam Taylor on 406262 or deaconsam@live.co.uk

Vale finalists in autism art competition

LOCAL autistic youngsters have reached the final judging stages of CREATE! Art for Autism, a UK-wide competition for young people with an Autistic Spectrum Condition.

The competition for ages 11-25 with an ASC or Asperger's Syndrome, was set up to showcase their creative capabilities.

This year, the competition attracted 810 entries from all across the UK, and even as far afield as Florida. Judges whittled them down to just 41 finalists,including Hannah Grace Denwood (9) from Fairfield Junior School in Penarth (in poetry); Taylor Boulton (17) from Ysgol Maes Dyfan in Barry, in the 3D artwork category, and Charlotte Elver (20) in Beechwood College in Sully, in digital photography.

The judges included Vale MP Alun Cairns and Jane Asher, president of the National Autistic Society and married to illustrator Gerald Scarfe.

All shortlisted finalists will be displayed at a special awards ceremony on July 19 at Beechwood College, in the Vale.

BEATING BULLIES

EYEPAT CIC is launching a unique anti-bullying programme in The Orial at the Senedd today (July 18) where it will be showing Happy Kids Don't Bully films.

Contact admin@eyepat.org or telephone 01446 795055 for further details.

60th FETE IS HUGE SUCCESS

AFTER last year's wash-out, the weather for Barry Scout and Guides' 60th annual fete was back on track – with glorious sunshine to help the Scouts and Guides celebrate their diamond jubilee.

The organisers estimate attendance by members of the public and uniform members at over 6,000, helping to recoup last year's loss and to boost the funds needed by the Scout and Guide groups in Barry.

The traditional marchpast to open the fete was led by the 1st Rogerstone Scout and Guide Band, the only Scout and Guide marching band in Wales.

After a short introduction by Cathie Steele, fete committee chair, Dr Who impersonator, Carwyn Provis, formally opened the fete.

During the opening ceremony Lesley Bryan, Scout leader with 5th Barry Sea Scout Group, was presented by Richard Edwards, area commissioner, the Chief Scout Medal of Merit.

A number of Girlguides were also presented by Jayne Newcombe, Division Commissioner, Baden Powell awards.

Following the official opening, the arena programme kept visitors entertained throughout the afternoon, with a display from Police Dog display team.

The arena games were a huge hit with the Beavers, Rainbows, Cubs, Brownies, Scouts and Guides, demonstrating that Scouting and Guiding is fun.

The Scout and Guide fete committee would like to thank everyone who attended and helped with the 60th fete.

Thanks go, in particular, to the group leaders for their continued support, which allows children from Barry and the surrounding districts to experience Scouting and Guiding and learn new skills, which will serve them well in the future.

Also, to those who helped set up and run the event, the countless helpers setting up the stalls, the parents and friends organising each group's contributions; the sponsors and patrons who provide needed financial support; the Vale of Glamorgan Council; Barry Town Council; St John's Ambulance; and the Barry Air Training Corp (372 Squadron).

The fete committee would like to particularly say thank you to the parks and open spaces staff, especially Neil and Eryl, and other staff of the Vale Council who help to prepare the park.

The fete committee is always trying to improve on our annual event and would appreciate any feedback through our survey which is on our website at www.barryscouts.org/fete.

CS

Carnival time with Welsh Proms at St David's Hall!

SUMMER in the city brings the magnificent Welsh Proms Cardiff to the centre of the St David's Hall stage, in an exciting programme of unmissable live music.

The Welsh Proms Cardiff brings a carnival atmosphere to St David's Hall in a week-long festival of music which is the highlight of the summer calendar in Cardiff on July 20-27.

As we celebrate 30 years since our official opening, the national concert hall of Wales welcomes audiences to a packed programme of live music of all genres, including folk, jazz, brass and children's concerts, plus performances from world class orchestras and soloists in the orchestral proms.

The dazzling array of performers includes the groundbreaking young trumpet soloist Tine Thing Helseth in the Fanfare Prom; Caroline Sheen and David Shannon in the Best of the West End Prom; Peter Donohoe in the Romantic Prom and Pete Long in the Jazz Prom.

Add this to the 'beautifully sung anarchy' in the Spooky Men's Prom; tales of Heroes and Villains, narrated by children's TV presenter Barney Harwood in the Family Prom; a trip to Bert's Magical Musical Farmyard in Tiddly Prom and a host of free and fringe events, this year's Welsh Proms Cardiff promises to be one of the finest Wales has seen.

Tickets for orchestral proms start from just £5.50!

Please visit www.stdavidshall-cardiff.co.uk for full information or call 02920 878444 to request a brochure.

The village show continues a rural tradition at Llancarfan

LAST weekend's Llancarfan Village Show took place on the sunniest and hottest day of the year so far – so finding shade on the village green was almost as important as winning a prize!

See next week's GEM for more photographs and for details of the winners.

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TALL SHIP SAILS IN FOR BARRY EXCHANGE VISIT

TODAY, July 18, in the lead-up to Minehead Harbour Festival, a group of young people from west Somerset are helping to sail the tall ship *Irene* of Bridgwater, from Minehead to Barry – to celebrate the heritage maritime trade link between the two towns.

The ship is carrying a symbolic hamper of local produce to exchange with a similar hamper of local produce from the Vale.

There will be a supper at Barry Yacht Club this evening made from ingredients from both towns and on Friday morning at 10am there will be a reception on board. The exchange of hampers will be made by the Mayor of the Vale and the Mayor of Minehead. The ship will return to Minehead at midday.

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Thanking everyone for their continued support

It's showtime, for Porthcawl town carnival

THE theme for the Porthcawl Buckaneers Carnival this Saturday, July 20 is 'TV shows' and there are new entries for floats this year.

Elindia Belly dancers will dance the route and the carnival procession will start at 1.30pm from Sandy Bay park, Porthcawl, town centre, finishing at Porthcawl Rugby Club.

At the front, the Westside All Stars will provide an interesting take on marching!

At the carnival field, will be a travelling fair, numerous stalls and sideshows. There is no entry fee.

"We will be entertained by Bernie Bennett's high wire act and Bruce Airhead. If you want to become involved please contact us.

"This is a local event for the enjoyment of the community of Porthcawl. In addition, it provides opportunities for local charities and good causes to raise much needed funds.

"As Porthcawl Buckaneers the funds we raise are donated to the community", said spokesperson Kerry Marlow.

"If you have a good cause or organisation that you wish to collect for, we are always looking for assistance on our collection days, so come and help us and we will make a donation to your cause.

"If you can help us please contact (01656 771457 or 07900494386, or email: marlowk@sky.com."

LLANTWIT MAJOR CRAFT & GIFT FAIRS

Saturday 20th July - Llantonian Hall

(behind the library) **10.00am - 3pm**

Come and see your regular favourites, look at new stalls and indulge in a yummy snack.

Enquiries: contact Peta Shields

E:petashields@gmail.com

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Day Trips for 2013

Date	Day	Destination	Adult Fare	OAP/Child
24/07/2013	Wednesday	Royal Welsh Show (Coach Only)	£12.00	£11.00
25/07/2013	Thursday	Cotswolds Villages - Day Trip	£11.95	£10.95
27/07/2013	Saturday	Weston Super Mare	£12.00	£11.00
03/08/2013	Saturday	Windsor	£14.00	£13.00
06/08/2013	Tuesday	Moreton in the Marsh 'Cotswolds'	£11.00	£10.00
11/08/2013	Sunday	Oakwood Park or Folly Farm (Coach Only)	£9.50	£8.50
13/08/2013	Tuesday	West Midlands Safari (Coach Only)	£14.50	£13.50
17/08/2013	Saturday	Wells & Burnham on Sea	£11.50	£10.95
25/08/2013	Sunday	Drayton Manor (Coach Only)	£15.00	£13.00
31/08/2013	Saturday	Tenby & Saundersfoot	£10.95	£10.00
11/09/2013	Wednesday	Carmarthen Market & Tenby	£ 9.50	£ 9.00
21/09/2013	Saturday	Bicester, Oxfordshire	£14.00	£13.00
12/10/2013	Saturday	Tewksbury & Ross on Wye 'Labels'	£11.50	£10.50
26/10/2013	Saturday	Stratford Upon Avon (Early Xmas Shopper)	£12.95	£11.95
23/11/2013	Saturday	Cheltenham Christmas Shopper	£11.50	£11.00
30/11/2013	Saturday	Worcester Victorian Christmas Fayre	£13.75	£13.00
TBA	Await Date	Caerphilly Medieval Xmas Fayre	TBA	TBA
08/12/2013	Sunday	Bath Christmas Market	£13.75	£12.75
22/12/2013	Sunday	London Xmas Shopping & Sights	£20.00	£19.00

Minimum passenger numbers are required, therefore early reservation is essential.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON OUR DAY TRIPS OR THE HIRE OF COACHES & MINI-BUSES CALL

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Unit 6, Litchard Industrial Estate, Bridgend, CF31 2AL

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D783.

- **£2,000:** 636145.
- **The rollover, which now stands at £2,000, was not won this week.**
- **£10:** 376297, 735428, 469582, 641393, 777511, 546940, 896686, 834226, 801545, 560144, 171584, 684941, 554961, 890222, 490041, 783592, 515394, 685387, 945567.
- **£5:** 574222, 507266, 624020, 111737, 688163, 582067, 843638, 277313, 279291, 610377, 186241, 410228, 166548, 677432, 994310, 258579, 706879, 175982, 623269, 261259, 662760, 292837, 594102, 115647, 633189, 527223, 489425, 676146, 223974, 525600, 109087, 729533, 527568, 834376, 523629, 549441, 162712, 325227, 232342, 995502, 639877, 443745, 842383, 635495, 669609, 640661, 458081, 421891, 482111, 558249, 566872, 171363, 517134, 722783, 500495, 271367, 400494.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 029 2053 2300.

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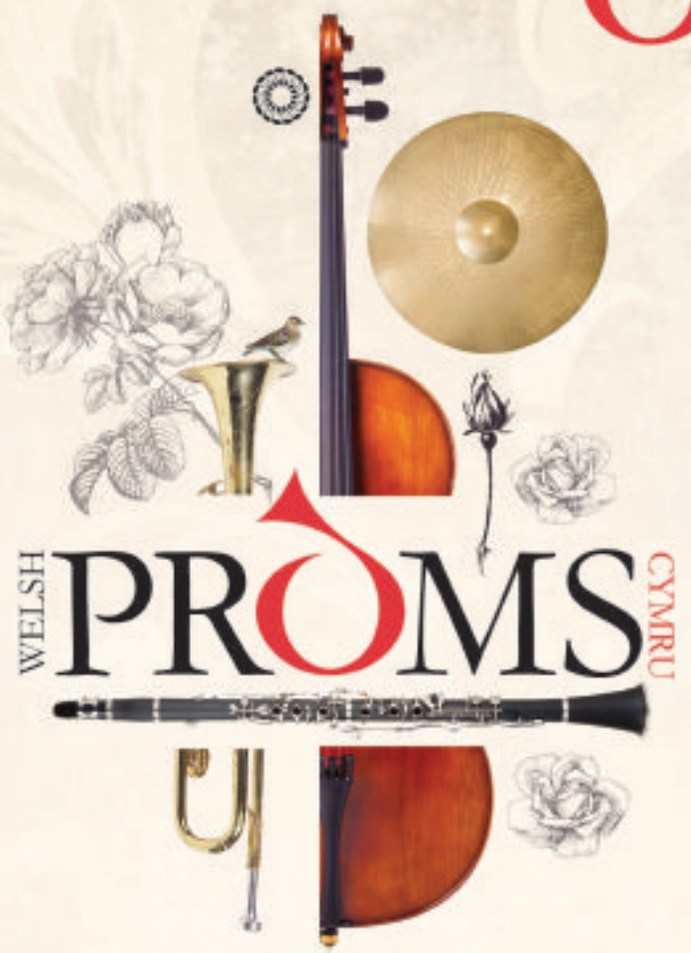

Tiddly Prom
Saturday 20 – 27th July 10.30am

Family Prom: Heroes and Villains
Saturday 20th July 12 Noon
Featuring children's TV presenter Barney Harwood

Hall of Fame Prom
Saturday 20th July 7.30pm

Brass and Voices Prom
Sunday 21st July 5.00pm

Spooky Men's Prom
Tuesday 23rd July 7.30pm

Best of the West End Prom
Wednesday 24th July 7.30pm
Featuring Caroline Sheen & David Shannon

Romantic Prom
Thursday 25th July 7.30pm
Featuring Peter Donohoe CBE & Stephen Disley

Fanfare Prom
Friday 26th July 7.30pm
Featuring Tine Thing Helseth

Last Night of the Welsh Proms
Saturday 27th July 7.00pm

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Charity concert in memory of Ray Murray

Report and photographs
by **KEITH E MORGAN**

THE inaugural Ray Murray concert, sponsored by Porters Estate Agents and held to raise funds for the Cowbridge-based charity, Prostate Cymru, featured the Bridgend Male Choir with musical director Rhiannon Williams-Hale, guest accompanist Sian Davies and compère Gareth Davies.

Also on stage were the Pendoylan Church in Wales Primary School Choir, with conductor Debra Jones, and guest soloists Mia Edwards, Callum Howells and Jodi Bird, all winners at the Treorchy National Eisteddfod.

The concert raised well over £1,500 for the Prostate Cymru challenge 'Touching The Sun.' This challenge has been taken up by 13 intrepid explorers; led by Andrew Thomas, consultant urologist and co-founder of Prostate Cymru, who aim to climb five volcanoes in Ecuador to raise funds for a Da Vinci robotic facility at the University of Wales Hospital, Cardiff.

This equipment will be used for the treatment of prostate cancer. The party left Cardiff International Airport for Quito in Ecuador, today (Thursday, July 18). The challenge will last for 14 days, during which time the expedition will climb the rugged volcano mountains of Ecuador to get to the nearest point on earth to the sun!

ABOVE:
The three guest soloists – Mia Edwards, Callum Howells and Jodi Bird – were winners at the National Eisteddfod in Treorchy..

ABOVE:
The Pendoylan Church in Wales Primary School Choir, with conductor Debra Jones and headteacher Lyn Murray.

ABOVE: Lyn Murray giving a vote of thanks to all concerned.

LEFT: Andrew Thomas, consultant urologist and co-founder of Prostate Cymru, explaining all about Prostate Cymru, the Da Vinci robotic facility, and the 'Touching the Sun' challenge.

BELOW:
Paul Porter with Rhiannon Williams-Hale bring the concert to its conclusion.

ABOVE:
The Bridgend Male Choir, with musical director Rhiannon Williams-Hale.

Cor Meibion take third prize

CÔR Meibion y Machlud are pictured (below) just before they performed at the all-Wales competitive event Gwyl Fawr, on July 6 in Cardigan, where they won third prize.

In the Gwyl Fawr, there are four choir competitions for youth, women, men and mixed choir. The first prizewinner in each then goes toe-to-toe for the 'Choir of the Festival' trophy.

PHOTO by JILL GOUGH

Club Cowbridge

Holiday Play Scheme at Bijou

Monday 5th - Friday 30th August

Den Building • Sport • Singing & Dancing • Arts & Crafts • Play • Day Trips • Lots More!

Club Cowbridge will provide stimulating and fun activities, both indoor and outdoor, in the heart of Cowbridge. So, whether you need childcare while you're working or you just want your child to have the opportunity to meet other children in a fun, safe environment - we're here!

8am - 5.30pm • Monday to Friday
£25.00 - Full Day • £15.00 - Half Day
Ages 8 years+ • Ages 4 - 7 years - Monday only

Includes breakfast, snacks, drinks and lunch - a variety of healthy menu options available.

Club Cowbridge Holiday Play Scheme at Bijou

£10.00 off a full day of fun!

This programme is supported by Vale of Glamorgan, Children & Young People's Partnership, Partnerships Plant a Pledd Fawr

For further details or to book, please call Club Cowbridge:
T: 01446 771190 E: info@bijou.so
W: www.bijou.so/clubcowbridge
c/o Bijou Play Centre, 48a Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7AB

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Children's choices and School's out inspiration…

Get going in Bridgend county this summer with Halo Leisure

SUMMER is finally here and this year Halo Leisure will be making sure that it's one everyone will remember.

Summer is a great time for us all to get active, and anyone with kids will want to keep them busy over the school holidays.

Activities for kids: From July 22 to September 1, we have a huge range of activities for children including swimming, arts, snorkelling, crafts, basketball, circus skills, gymnastics and rugby.

Check www.haloleisure.org.uk for the full timetable. There is also a free crash course of swimming lessons to children not currently on the 'learn to swim' programme, as well as special offers on one-to-one swimming lessons. Call your local pool on 0300 012 1223.

Activities for the family: It can be all too easy to let the kids spend too much time on the sofa over the summer, and while it's great to relax after a long school year, it's also important to make sure they stay active during the holidays.

The longer days are also the perfect time for adults to join in and give something new a try too.

Kids aged five to 16 need to do at least 60 minutes of physical activity that gets their heart beating faster than usual, and they need to do it every day to burn off calories and prevent them storing up excess fat. It's also recommended that adults should make sure they're active for 150 minutes a week.

To mark the one year celebration of the opening ceremony of London 2012 Olympics, Halo is inviting local adults and children to visit their local Halo centre on Saturday, July 27 (Bridgend, Maesteg, Ogmore, Pencoed, Pyle, Ynysawdre) to find out how they can get more active more often.

- See the facilities and find out about the activities on offer.
- Get a complimentary seven-day guest pass so you can sample facilities and activities.
- Get advice and guidance from a fitness professional or swim instructor.
- Enter into a prize draw to win a year's free membership of Halo Leisure.

For more information on what's going on in your area, visit www.haloleisure.org.uk.

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22nd July – 23rd August
FREE sport, play and arts and craft activities for 8-11 year olds. Available at venues throughout the County Borough including Halo centres at Bridgend, Ogmore, Garw and Maesteg.

TEENAGE FIT HIT
22nd July – 1st September
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Visit www.haloleisure.org.uk for a timetable or call your local Halo centre on 0300 012 1223

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GWYLIAU HAF NA FYDD EICH PLANT YN EI ANGHOFIO

Hwyl Haf i blant yn halo Leisure

Llwyth o weithgareddau newydd a ffrindiau newydd

22 Gorffennaf – 1 Medi - i blant hyd at 13 mlwydd oed

Nofio, Snorcela, Water Walkerz, Saethyddiaeth, Pêl Rwyd, Pêl Fasged, Polo Dŵr, Sgiliau Syrcas, Rygbi, Gweithgareddau Awyr Agored, Tennis, Cyfeirianna, Celf a Chrefft, Trampolin, Beicio Grŵp, Plymio, Gymnasteg, Achub Bywyd
.... a llawer iawn mwy

PLAY4LIFE
22 Gorffennaf – 1 Medi
CHWARAEON, gweithgareddau chwarae a chelf a chrefft AM DDIM i blant rhwng 8 ac 11. Ar gael mewn lleoliadau ledled y Fwrdeistref Sirol gan gynnwys canolfannau Halo yn Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr, Bro Ogwr, Cwm Garw a Maesteg.

FFITRWYDD I'R ARDDEGAU
22 Gorffennaf – 1 Medi
Am un taliad o £30 caiff plant 11 – 16 mlwydd oed fwynhau'r gampfa, dosbarthiadau ymarfer corff grŵp ieuenctid, nofio a chwaraeon raced.

Ewch i www.haloleisure.org.uk i gael amserlen, neu ffonio'ch canolfan Halo leol ar 0300 012 1223

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Gweithio mewn partneriaeth er mwyn pobl Bwrdeistref Sirol Pen-y-bont ar Ogwr

SPORTS NEWS FROM COWBRIDGE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

SKIERS SHINE IN DRY SLOPE COMPETITION

THE south east Wales schools regional dry slope ski competition took place on a sunny summer evening at Fairwater Ski centre in Cardiff, and two boys' teams and one girl represented Cowbridge Comprehensive with great skill and effort.

Each skier carried out two runs on a slalom course, with the fastest time counting towards individual performance and the fastest times for each skier within the team added together to give a team result.

RESULTS: under-14 boys non-registered – 2nd place, Dylan Lloyd-Doyle; 3rd place, Josh Lloyd Doyle; under-16 boys registered – 1st place, Harry Hopkins; under-16 boys non-registered – 2nd place, Henry Jones; 3rd place, Tom Kynaston; under-18 boys non-registered – 1st place, Ben Jones; 2nd place, Jon Harvey; under-18 girls non-registered – 2nd place, Caitlin Jones; overall girls result non-registered –2nd place, Caitlin Jones; overall boys result non-registered – 1st place, Ben Jones.

Overall boys team result –1st place, Cowbridge A (Ben Jones, Ben Thomas, Harry Hopkins, Henry Jones).

The pupils acquitted themselves really well; it was especially pleasing to see some younger skiers getting involved for the first time.

The boys' ski team who took first place in the Fairwater event.

Sophia wins Welsh Cup

SOPHIA HARPIN and her pony Sky represented Wales in the Junior Home International at Uttoxeter, where the team were runners-up to England, beating Ireland and Scotland.

Sophia was also chosen to represent Wales under-17s in this year's European Mounted Games Championships, hosted by Ireland. They were held at Tattersalls in Dublin, July 8 – 15.

The prestigious event was attended by 16 countries. The competition included individual and team events, with competitors from four age groups competing over four days to find the European Champions for 2013.

Earlier this year, eligible riders were observed by the team trainer and selectors at the David Broome Event Centre, Chepstow to select the Welsh Team. Wales has an outstanding reputation throughout the world for World class games riders. This is a remarkable achievement.

Sophia Harpin

Sports day

THE sun came out for sports day on Friday, July 5 and more than 260 pupils and staff travelled to Jenner Park Athletics Stadium to compete in 12 athletic events.

The competition was excellent; each of the three teams per year group fielded two athletes for each event. Many pupils achieved personal best performances, cheered on by their peers.

The track competition stopped to watch Tom Trotman clear 1.85m in the high jump, and Niamh Galton broke the school year-9 high Jump record of 1.45m held by Annabel Curle with a new height of 1.56m.

The relay races were the highlight of the day, with the year-10 girls coming home in a time of 55.75, a new school record.

Thank you to Mrs Thomas for supporting our pupils and giving them the opportunity to compete in the facilities of Jenner Park. Well done all who took part.

OTHER NEWS

THREE of our pupils took part in the 66th Welsh National Track and Field Championships at Leckwith Stadium on July 6.

Kristian Jones was second in the middle boys 100m with a time of 11.27, and second in the 100m hurdles with a time of 14.40.

Tom Trotman won the middle boys high jump with a clearance of 1.80m and came eighth in the shot put with a throw of 10.33m.

The middle boys team won the team event.

Annabel Curle won the middle girls high jump, clearing 1.60m, also a new school record.

Champion Nicole 'overwhelmed' by Fellowship award

Nicole Cooke. PICTURE by HUW JOHN

OLYMPIC cyclist Nicole Cooke MBE, from Wick (above), was "totally overwhelmed" to receive an honorary Fellowship from Cardiff Metropolitan University, at a graduation ceremony in Wales Millennium Centre.

Nicole, who retired from professional cycling in January, said: "I really was overwhelmed by the whole occasion – the atmosphere inside the WMC was electric and it was a very special experience that will stay with me forever.

"It was a fantastic ceremony and great to also see all the Cardiff Met students officially receiving their degrees – I wish every one of them the very best for their future."

An honorary F ellowship is one of the highest honours that the university can bestow, and is awarded to those who have brought distinction either to the university itself or to the region, Cardiff Metropolitan University's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Antony Chapman, said: "The university awarded Nicole this honorary fellowship to show our respect for her outstanding and distinguished service to the community throughout her eminent cycling career."

Nicole (29) enjoyed 13 years success as a professional road bicycle racer, with well-deserved gold medal wins at the Olympics and Word Race Championships in 2008.

She worked closely with Team GB teammates in the 2012 games to get silver medallist Lizzie Armitstead into the best possible position and ensure Britain's place on the podium. Nicole has just finished writing her autobiography, which will be published this autumn.

NEWS FROM WENVOE CASTLE GOLF CLUB

Sun shines on captain's day

CAPTAIN'S DAY at Wenvoe Castle Golf Club has, in recent years, not enjoyed the best of weather conditions.

So, club captain Barrie Jones was relieved and delighted that his special day took place in glorious sunshine, and the club membership played their part, turning out to give full support to the various fundraising events.

All entry fees to the morning Men's 'shotgun' stableford competition were donated to the Captain's nominated charity, Ty Hafan, and several other donations were received from members unable to play on the day.

The winner of the individual stableford was Dan Williams with 41 points winning on countback from Dr Dai Dayananda who also scored 41.

Three players recorded 40 points, with Ian Pearcey taking third place on countback from Rob Picton and Phil Roberts.

The team prize was won by Darren Jeffries, Andrew Miller, Paul Wheatley and Dr Dai Dayananda with an impressive 142 points. John McAree won the nearest the pin competition on the second hole, with his ball finishing just 33 cms from the hole.

VETERAN WINS

The longest drive on the 18th hole was won by 'veteran' Keith Stimpson – fresh from becoming the Glamorgan County Champion the previous week.

The players enjoyed a lunch of hotdogs and onions and then went to the panoramic patio to watch and cheer the 'Captain's Drive' from the nearby 12th tee.

To raise more funds, members were invited to guess the distance the ball travelled using one of three clubs, a 5-iron, a 5-wood or driver – to be selected at random

It turned out to be the 5-iron and, to the obvious relief of the captain, an impressive stroke saw the ball fly some 150 yards up the fairway..

Club member Brian McConkey correctly chose both the club and the distance and he was rewarded with a special prize of a basket of wine.

The real winner was Ty Hafan – receiving several hundred pounds from both events.

The day ended with the presentation of prizes. The Captain thanked the members for their support, together with the bar and catering staff for their excellent service. There was particular praise for the green keepers for presenting the course in such fine condition – especially the immaculate greens which proved to be a major contribution to a successful and rewarding day.

ABOVE:
Winner Dan Williams (on right) receives his prize from club captain Barrie Jones.

ABOVE: Runner-up Dr Dai Dayananda receives his prize.

ABOVE: Ian Pearcey took the third prize.

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YOUNG FOOTBALLERS ON STATESIDE VISIT

The team players with Wales and Everton legend Neville Southall.

A TEAM of young people from the Vale are preparing to travel to the USA to take part in FIFA-regulated football tournaments in Los Angeles, San Francisco and Las Vegas.

The team made up of players (aged 13-14) rom Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg and Cowbridge Comprehensive, will be the only team from the UK competing alongside teams from Mexico, USA, Brazil, Africa, the Caribbean and Hawaii.

PG10 Coaching, the organisers, will be linking in with LA Galaxy in Los Angeles and given opportunities to meet the first team players and watch their preparations before their MLS v Dallas FC match.

All the players have gained accredited sport qualifications and also the 'Gold Award of Excellence' for over 200 hours of voluntary activity from the 'Welsh Government Millennium Volunteers' programme as part of the Olympic 2012 legacy. Each player has been presented with a certificate, signed by First Minster Carwyn Jones.

For more information on PG10 Coaching, go to www.pg10coaching.co.uk or follow the USA tour on twitter @petegriffiths10.

Tennis club remembers Val

ON a sunny Saturday afternoon, Dinas Powys Tennis Club was delighted to welcome the nieces of Val Edwards, Sian and Mair, to Saturday teas to thank them for the bench which they and their brother Rhys have donated to the club in Val's memory.

Val was a much-valued member of the club, epitomising all the attributes of successful club membership. A good team player and a ladies club captain in the 70s, Val also helped and attended social activities and, until about three years ago, made lovely cakes for teas at the beginning of the season.

She was rarely without a smile and a laugh, which made her such good company to all who came in contact with her. She is remembered very fondly.

Many of Val's tennis friends and near contemporaries met Sian and Mair to swap stories. They brought the good weather with them and were delighted with the bench, which now sits proudly on the patio for all to enjoy.

Val would have loved the occasion!

NW

ABOVE:
Sian and Mair on the memorial bench.

Barry Wanderers play host to the Charlotte Norman memorial match

TEN years ago, Barry Wanderers stalwart Steve Norman lost his daughter Charlotte after a long illness.

Situated next to Hayes Point and the home of Barry Wanderers is Ty Hafan children's hospice, where Charlotte spent the last months of her life being expertly cared for and supported during her last days.

On such a beautiful, sunny day, it was poignant that Barry Wanderers and Cardiff Casuals should play a game dedicated to the memory of Charlotte. The day was also an opportunity to raise money for Ty Hafan, who provide support for life-limited children and young people, and is dedicated to improving the quality of life for the whole family.

Steve Norman, captain for the day, lost the toss and the Casuals elected to bat in the stifling heat.

In his first over, Sam Harris got Britton flaying at a swinging one and he was well caught for 0 by Lewis Downey at gully. O'Reilly and Mason Willes then bludgeoned the ball to all parts as they set about posting a large total.

Ellis dropped a tough chance before getting revenge by catching one on the boundary off the bowling of Theo Richards. Phil Wolfenden had one of those golden days behind the stumps, taking four catches as he and Morgan ripped through the heart of the Casuals batting line up, Morgan finishing his spell with season best figures of 4-17.

At 99 for 8 the situation looked bleak for the Casuals but in Lewis and Obee they had two men made of sterner stuff. Liam Norman, brother of Steve and making a guest appearance for the Wanderers, came onto bowl at the Ty Hafan end and after initial rustiness soon found his line and length and was unlucky not to take a wicket.

It was left to Harris to wrap up the innings as he bowled Obee for 15 and got last man Stephens for 5, caught by Wolfenden down the leg side. With a ninth wicket partnership of 59, the Casuals ended up on a very respectable 168 all out, with the pick of the bowlers being the evergreen Dave Morgan.

With everyone rehydrating, it was time for the Wanderers to see if they could continue with their fine form on a Sunday. Steve Norman opened the batting and looked comfortable at the crease.

Unfortunately, Blundell (9), Hill (0) and Wolfenden (15) were unable to stay for any length of time. Dave Stealey, looking resplendent in baggy green, was wielding his willow with magnificent effect as he creamed the ball to the boundary.

It was all going along so well until a ball was hit to mid-wicket and Steve Norman was the victim, out for a sterling 20. Stealey and Ellis looked to continue the run chase and they took the score past 100 before Stealey sliced one to point for 30.

Richards and Wade soon departed leaving the Wanderers tottering on the brink at 128 for 6 and once Ellis was caught and bowled for 21 the game was effectively over.

Young Harris and Downey tried their best but with Stealey umpiring at the hospital end the game was over with the Wanderers finishing on 144 all out, 24 runs short of their target.

It was a great days cricket, played in excellent spirit and the Cardiff Casuals certainly added their personality and respect to the occasion.

For his accurate wibble-wobble spell of 4-17 off 7 overs in the searing heat, the Dow Corning player of the match award goes to Dave Morgan.

Thanks to all those involved in a special day in the Wanderers history; for the tea ladies who provided such a wonderful tea; chairman Chris Barnes for organising the day; Steve Norman and his family for the support; Paul Wade who sponsored the tea; Alun Wade for his help with the Barclays match funding, and to all the supporters and players who came back to the pub and helped raise £816 for Ty Hafan – it's days like these that I'm proud to be a Barry Wanderer.

ME

Premiership stars come to support Barry

THE BLUEBIRDS will be the star attraction on Saturday, July 27, when they visit Jenner Park to give Barry Town a welcome boost.

The Premiership new boys, Cardiff City, will tackle Gavin Chesterfield's Barry Town United in a pre-season friendly.

The special match will form the centrepiece of Barry Town's family fun day – a community event in association with LDS Motor Factors and RIM Motors that will feature live music, a bouncy castle, barbecue, disco and more, in addition to the football.

Tickets for the day, including admission to the match and the other entertainment, are available online at *barry.ticketsource.co.uk* – for the family-friendly prices of £5 and £3 (under-11s).

Last season, Cardiff City brought a team to Jenner Park for a sell-out match that included a string of full internationals and first team faces, and another strong side is expected

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THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

VARIOUS ROADS, CARDIFF AIRPORT

(VARIOUS PROHIBITIONS, RESTRICTIONS AND LIMITATIONS TO VEHICLE AND PEDESTRIAN MOVEMENTS)

(ANTI-TERRORISM) (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2013

1. On the 11th July 2013 the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Sections 14(1) and 22C of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and of all other enabling powers made an Order the general effect of which is as described in the Schedules below.

2. The Order will come into operation on the 30th July 2013 and a copy of the Order may be seen at the address shown below during normal office hours.

3. If you wish to question the validity of the Order or any provisions contained therein on the grounds that they are not within the powers conferred by the above Act or on the grounds that any requirement of the same or that any instrument made under it has not been complied with in relation to the Order, you may within six weeks from the 30th July 2013 apply to the High Court for this purpose.

Except as provided by this Order:

No person shall proceed on foot or cause or permit any vehicle or cycle to proceed, stop or wait at any time, in the location specified within the Schedule below.

SCHEDULE

Location	All roads between the roundabout where the airport access road meets the A4226/B4265 and the junctions where the two airport access roads meet Port Road.
Reason	These prohibitions, restrictions and limitations are made for the purpose of avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the roads; avoiding, reducing, or reducing the likelihood of, danger connected with terrorism or for a purpose relating to danger or damage connected with terrorism (as defined in Section 1 of the Terrorism Act 2000).
Duration	From 18.01 hours on 30th July 2013 for a maximum period of 18 Months.
Alt. Route	The diversions for south east bound traffic will be from the roundabout adjacent to the Aircraft Maintenance Facility, then in a south easterly direction along the A4226 to the roundabout at the junction with Port Road then in a south westerly direction along Port Road, to the Airport and vice-versa.

Dated this 18th day of July 2013

M. E. Punter,
Director of Visible Services & Housing,
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.

VALE of GLAMORGAN
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CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

AMRYWIOL FFYRDD, MAES AWYR CAERDYDD

(AMRYWIOL WAHARDDIADAU A CHYFYNGIADAU AR SYMUDIADAU GAN GERBYDAU A CHERDDWYR)

GORCHYMYN (GWRTHDERFYSGAETH) (DROS DRO) 2013

1. Ar 11 Gorffennaf 2013 gwnaeth Cyngor Bro Morgannwg wrth arfer ei bwerau o dan Adrannau 14(1) a 22C o Ddeddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 a'r holl bwerau galluogi eraill, Orchymyn gyda'r effaith gyffredinol a ddisgrifir yn yr Atodlenni isod.

2. Daw'r Gorchymyn i rym ar 30 Gorffennaf 2013 a bydd copi o'r Gorchymyn i'w weld yn y cyfeiriad a ddangosir isod yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol.

3. Os hoffech gwestiynu dilysrwydd y Gorchymyn neu unrhyw ddarpariaethau oddi mewn iddo ar y sail nad ydynt o fewn y pwerau a roddwyd yn y Ddeddf uchod neu ar y sail na chafwyd cydymffurfiaeth yn achos unrhyw ofynion o'i eiddo neu unrhyw offeryn yn ddarostyngedig iddo mewn perthynas â'r Gorchymyn, cewch o fewn chwech wythnos o 30 Gorffennaf 2013 wneud cais i'r Uchel Lys i'r perwyl hwn.

Heblaw fel y darperir gan y Gorchymyn hwn:

Ni chaniateir i unrhyw berson fynd ar droed neu beri neu ganiatáu i unrhyw gerbyd neu feic i fynd, stopio neu aros ar unrhyw adeg, yn y lleoliad a enwir o fewn yr Atodlen isod.

ATOLDEN

Lleoliad	Pob ffordd rhwng y gylchfan sy'n cysylltu ffordd fynediad y maes awyr â'r A4226/B4265 a'r cyffyrdd sy'n cysylltu dwy ffordd fynediad y maes awyr â Port Road.
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Hyd	O 18.01 ar 30 Gorffennaf 2013 am fwyafswm cyfnod o 18 mis.
Llwybr Amgen	Bydd gwyriadau ar gyfer traffig i gyfeiriad y de ddwyrain yn dechrau ar y gylchfan ger y Ganolfan Cynnal a Chadw Awyrennau, yna mewn cyfeiriad de ddwyreiniol ar hyd yr A4226 hyd at y gylchfan ar y gyffordd gyda Port Road ac yna mewn cyfeiriad de orllewinol ar hyd Port Road, i'r Maes Awyr, ac i'r gwrthwyneb.

Dyddiedig y 18 dydd o Gorffennaf 2013

M. E. Punter,
Dyddledig Gwasanaethau Gweladwy a Thai,
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Canolfan yr Alpau, Gwenfô. CF5 6AA.

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IT'S SUMMER FUN AT ST BRIDE'S PRIMARY!

LIFE in St Bride's Major C/W Primary School is as busy as ever and the children have been enjoying interesting activities.

They have been visited by chef Simon Willows from 'The Rose and Crown' in Porthcawl (Brains Brewery), who has been cooking with the children, making tasty dishes such as Paella along with desserts including crème brulee.

The children have learned so much from working with a professional chef – there have been some amazing aromas around the school, too!

Reception class and year-1 were recently visited by Cardiff Reptile Centre, when they learned about a whole range of interesting creatures, including snakes, spiders and meerkats.

One of the pupils at the school has won a prize in the 'Designed to Smile' Competition: Catherine Rowe's delightful drawing of the tooth fairy will be published in the British Dental Journal.

She won prizes for herself and £200 for the school council. Well done, Catherine!

All in all, it's been a great term. If you are interested in visiting the school, please contact the Headteacher on 01656 880477. Also, check out the school's new website at www.stbridesprimary.org.uk. ***CM***

Catherine Rowe with her wimming entry

EVERYONE'S A WINNER!

NEWS IN BRIEF

BRIDGEND Castle Players Amateur Drama Group will present *Who Killed The Director?*, a murder mystery, on Friday, August 16 in Ogmore Vale Non-Political Club (the Non-Pol) at 8pm.

Proceeds will be shared with the Nantymoel Community Association (formerly known as Save the Berwyn Group) to redress the loss suffered by the community.

Ticket details on the website, www.bridgendcastelplayers.org or Dewi Griffiths Distinctive Jewellery, Bridgend, and the Blaenogwr Hotel, Nantymoel.

Writers' invite

BRIDGEND Writers' Circle invite new members to meet from 7.15pm to 9.15pm on the second Friday of every month at Bryntirion and Laleston Community Centre. Please contact the secretary on 01656772738, or bridgendwriters.webs.com for further information.

Ollie's 5am start to his marathon charity walk

A 13-year-old local schoolboy is hoping the weather turns cooler this Saturday – because he has committed himself to an exhausting charity challenge.

Oliver Lewis, a year-8 pupil at Cowbridge Comprehensive School, is planning a 40-mile walk along the Wales Coastal Path on July 21 to raise much-needed funds for Bridgend Athletics Club.

Oliver is a club member and, when he heard that the club needed to raise funds, he was keen to help.

He told The GEM: "I was amazed to hear that Bridgend Athletics Club is the only such club in Wales not to receive any support from its local authority.

"There are so many children, including me and my brother, Fraser, 11, who love training there and who are coached by a team of volunteers who give up time every week to help us.

"If I can raise some money to help them, I'd be delighted."

Oliver will start his walk at around 5am on the steps of the National Assembly building in Cardiff Bay, and he will finish at the club's training centre in Newbridge Fields, Bridgend.

Sections of the coastal path are very taxing, particularly between Llantwit Major and Southerndown – a stretch that Oliver will hit quite late in his day.

"I think the walk will take about 13 hours," said Ollie. "My Dad and I walked around the coast of Guernsey three years ago and it took us over 15 hours but I'm a lot fitter now thanks to all the training I do!"

To sponsor Ollie on his walk, email him at oliver.lewis@btinternet.com or on 07834 735410.

Local pupils show enterprise skills

TWO Bridgend county borough primary schools have shown their boardroom acumen – by excelling in a 'Mini Apprentice' competition.

Maes Yr Haul Primary School and Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr were among six schools from across south east Wales to reach the final stages of a contest that challenged youngsters to demonstrate their creative flair, business instincts and design skills.

They were asked to design and create a new sweet treat with a Welsh flavour that was made using Fairtrade and local ingredients.

They were also asked to include at least one type of fruit or vegetable in the making of their product, while they were required to show consideration for the environment and sustainability when selecting their packaging.

Samples of their final products had to be created and costings listed before the budding apprentices gave their all-important 'pitches' to the judging panel.

The two schools were praised for their outstanding efforts but were narrowly pipped to the first prize.

The final stages of the competition were held at Big Pit in Torfaen, and the finalists were treated to an underground tour of the National Coal Museum and received goody bags donated by the Co-operative.

Great time had by all at Brackla Fun Day

PHOTOGRAPHS by **ALAN K DRURY**

THE recent Brackla Fun Day, a popular annual event, was blessed with sunny weather and, as the pictures taken by Alan K Drury show there were plenty of activities to keep the crowds happy!

Red Arrows fly past at Cowbridge Civic service

This picture of the Red Arrows' flypast over Cowbridge town hall was taken by ***MIKE WILCOCK.***

Friends' fete raises £1,526 for St John's school

A "marvellous time was had by all" at the recent annual fete and barbecue at St John's School, Porthcawl!

The sun shone gloriously and pupils, parents, staff, friends and family, all came along in droves to soak up the wonderful atmosphere and the sunshine.

Sport played a major part in the afternoon and events kicked off with a competitive rounders match where ladies and girls took on the dads and boys.

Despite the best efforts of Mrs Karen Price, sports teacher at St John's, the dads won by half a rounder!

The dads were then in jubilant mood to play football against two teams of St John's pupils and their friends!

The dads first took on a junior team of under-11s (whose strength was in its number!) and then a senior team of under-16s (whose strength was in the physical size of the boys, some towering over the dads!)

Both football matches were very evenly matched and absolutely every player gave their all. Each goal was celebrated with a burst of 'Match of The Day' music, which delighted the crowds and encouraged some optimistic shooting!

The final score was a true reflection of how close and tense the matches were with a 3-3 draw in the junior game and a 1-1 draw in the senior game!

Next came a tug of war, and in particular, a keenly-fought contest between the mums and the dads!

For the first time in history the Mums had won the competition last year, and they were keen to show that their strength had only increased with time!

After much excitement the mums' team, which was ever increasing in number, finally dragged the dads over the line and there was much celebration!

Other attractions which caused great excitement included a giant-sized bouncy assault course, pony rides, coconut shy, splat the rat, welly throwing, apple fishing, goal kicking, delicious cakes, a tasty barbecue and a well-stocked bar!

The successful event was organised by The Friends of St John's School and raised a fabulous £1,526!

Catherine Pearson

ABOVE: A team of dads took on an under-16 team, made up of pupils and their friends.

There were egg and spoon races (above) and a keenly-contested rounders match (below).

ABOVE: The mums' tug-of-war team was triumphant!

LEFT: You just can't go wrong with a bouncy castle.

Waste ground at Maesteg transformed into garden

ABOVE: The opening day ceremony.
Pictures by Centre Staged of Maesteg.

BELOW: The garden before work began.

Some of the children who were involved.

MEMBERS of Maesteg Community Garden Projects, with friends and neighbours recently got together to transform a piece of derelict ground into a small community garden.

There was a lot of work to do, removing all the rubbish which had been dumped over the years.

Funding for the project came from the Town Council, Asda, Wilkinsons and Tesco, who donated plants and materials for the build. BCBC donated a load of topsoil; local children planted seeds and flowers to bring colour to the garden – and they will now help to maintain it, together with people living nearby.

The garden was officially opened by the Mayor of Maesteg, Coun Ross Thomas (pictured far left)

LW

Pupils get to meet The Maid of Sker!

by KEITH E MORGAN

LOCAL film producer, Anthony Hontoir, recently visited Ysgol y Ferch o'r Sgêr – to give a presentation on movie film making techniques.

He has produced a number of films on DVD under the 'Downwood Film Productions' banner, including *Kenfig*, *The Restoration of Sker House* and most recently *Ghosts of Glamorgan*..Copies of all three DVD films were presented to the school.

Anthony uses few modern digital techniques, but relies on the well proven and by today's standards, 'old fashioned' cinematography methods using film cameras.

The cameras record images on a strip of transparent plastic film coated on one side with a gelatin emulsion containing microscopically small light-sensitive silver halide crystals.

Anthony had brought along a number of movie camera types which use conventional film. Compared with today's equivalent modern digital cameras, the film cameras on display were large and in many cases, very heavy.

All three of Anthony's DVDs are based on the local area and what better way to highlight this than to bring along 'The Maid of Sker' to add character and colour the presentation.

Young film actress Sarah George filled the role admirably.

Anthony invited pupils to have their pictures taken with 'The Maid of Sker' and the 'clapper board' used to identify different 'scene takes' in the making of movie films.

ABOVE: Mrs Rhiannon Dixon, headteacher, welcoming 'The Maid of Sker', Miss Sarah George, and Anthony Hontoir, to Ysgol y Ferch o'r Sgêr.

LEFT: Anthony Hontoir gives his presentation.

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Family Notices

DOREEN GRACE JONES

Peacefully after a very long illness, Doreen Grace Jones of Pontypridd Road, Barry passed away aged 91 on 14th July 2013. She leaves a daughter Ruth, son Geoffrey, six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Following her wishes, her body has been passed to Cardiff School of Bio-Sciences (University Hospital). Donations, in lieu of flowers, may be made to Save the Children Fund, c/o Mrs Ruth Ridge, The Orchard, Perriswood, Penmaen, Swansea, SA3 2HN.

MAY
Donald E J

Peacefully on July 9 at Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, after a long illness bravely borne, Don of St Athan. Loving father of Phillip, will be sorely missed by Jenny.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Monday July 22, service 11am at St Athan Church followed by interment in St Athan Cemetery. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to RSPCA or Ty Hafan Childrens Hospice Wales, both c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3DZ.

DAVIES
Glenys

Peacefully on July 10th at Holme Tower, Marie Curie Hospice, Penarth, Glenys from Llantwit Major, much loved wife of Alan and mother of Peter and the late Sally. Adored grandma of Owen and Gareth. Glenys' wonderful sense of humour and fun will be sadly missed by all who knew her.

Funeral Service on Tuesday, July 23rd at St Illtyd's Church, Llantwit Major at 12 noon, followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium at 1.15pm.

No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Marie Curie, Holmes Towers c/o Thomas Brothers, Greengate, Ewenny Road, St Brides Major, CF32 0SB.

WAKEFIELD
Phillip Charles

Peacefully slipped away on 13th July 2013, Phillip of Llantwit Major after a short fight with cancer. Treasured husband of Liz and a devoted father to Colin, David, Emma and Elaine. He was a loving granddad and will be sadly missed.

Resting at W.A. Brown & Son, Llantwit Major until the Funeral on Tuesday 23rd July 2013 in Coychurch Crematorium at 2.45pm. Flowers may be sent to the Funeral Home or donations may be made to Marie Curie Cancer Care (cheques only please).

HENDERSON
Barbara Rose

Peacefully on 13th July at Milsom House, St Athan, Barbara Rose, aged 95 years of Llantwit Major. A loved wife of James Alfred, dearly loved mother of Christine and the late David. Cherished grand-mother of David, Sian, Samantha, Emma, James and great grandmother to all her great grandchildren. Barbara will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry until the Funeral on Tuesday, 23rd July 2013. Funeral Service at the Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry at 12 noon, where family and friends please meet.

Family flowers only, if desired, donations may be handed to the Funeral Director after the Funeral for Headway (Brain Injury), Headway House, Rookwood Hospital, Fairwater Road, Cardiff, CF5 2YN.

THOMAS
Rhodri

Andrew, Helen, Elwyn, Morgan, Evan and family, have been overwhelmed by everyones kindness and support following Rhodri's tragic death.

Thank you for making this sad time such a special celebration of Rhodri's life.

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Happy 13th Birthday
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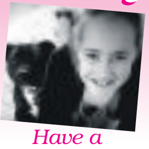
Arian Webb
on 24th July



Have a fantastic day. with lots of love from ***Mum, Dad & all the family*** *xxx*

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Public Notices

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Daw'r Gorchymyn hwn i rym ar 18 Gorffennaf 2013. Serch hynny, os bydd unrhyw un sy'n tybio iddo gael cam, yn dymuno holi ynghylch dilysrwydd y Gorchymyn neu unrhyw ddarpariaeth ynddo, am nad yw o fewn pwerau Deddf Priffyrdd (diwygiedig), neu am na chydymffurfiwyd â gofynion y Ddeddf neu reoliadau a wnaed o dani wrth drafod y Gorchymyn, caiff yr unigolyn hwnnw wneud cais i'r Uchel Lys o dan baragraff 2 Atodlen 2 o'r Ddeddf drwy weithrediad paragraph 5 Atodlen 6, cyn pen 6 wythnos o ddyddiad cyhoeddi'r Rhybudd yn gyntaf.

Dyddiedig 18 Gorffennaf 2013

Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Datblygu
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NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER HIGHWAYS ACT 1980 THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (PUBLIC BRIDLEWAY NO 31 & PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO 32 LLANBLETHIAN) PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION ORDER 2012

On the 7th June 2013 the Vale of Glamorgan Council confirmed the above Order, made under Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980.

The effect of the Order as confirmed is to divert the public footpath as shown on the Order map.

A copy of the Order as confirmed and the Order map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at the address below from 9:00am to 4:00pm on weekdays from 18th July 2013 until 29th August 2013. Copies of the Order and map may be bought there at a price of £4.50.

This Order comes into force on the 18th July 2013, but if any person aggrieved by the Order wants to question its validity or that of any provision contained in it, on the ground that it is not within the powers of the Highways Act, as amended, or on the ground that any requirement of the Act, as amended, or of any regulation made under the Act has not been complied with in relation to the Order, he or she may, under paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the Act as applied by paragraph 5 of Schedule 6 to the Act, within 6 weeks from the date on which the Notice is first published make an application to the High Court.

Dated this 18th July 2013

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The Sun shines on Brynhill lady golfers

ABOVE: Julie Harkin, Audrey Phillips, Jo Kirkpatrick and Rose Pitman.

ABOVE: Members had a great time at the ladies' captain's day.

BRYNHILL ladies' section continues to enjoy a very successful season, as the sunny weather has resulted in all competitions being well supported.

Results for the club competitions as follows: June 11, John Lowden Cup, Golf Foundation Brooch and GUW bronze medal – winner, Alma Sheppard, 66 nett; GUW silver medal – winner, Jan Robertson,75 nett.

June 18, Ladies captain's prize followed by a presentation in the evening – bronze winner, Brenda Chick; silver winner, Linda Hewlett.

Thank you to the ladies' captain, Mrs Julie Harkin for the beautiful prizes.

June 25, Peggy Lane Cup – winner, Helene Cook, nett 71; GUW silver medal – winner, Helene Cook; GUW bronze medal – winner, Carole Bumford.

July 2, Jo Whitehouse Cup – winner, Liz Taylor; Grans Trophy – winner, Judy Davies.

Ladies' open day

THIS event was enjoyed by over 60 ladies, who visited Brynhill.

There were visitors from St Mary Hill, Pontnewydd, Newport, Maesteg and St Athan to name but a few, and the sun shone and the course looked fantastic, thanks to Iain Grant and his ground staff.

Once again the ladies captain and the ladies of Brynhill would like to thank all those who supported the event; congratulations to the worthy prize winners.

The event was played as a team event with three players in each team.

Winners from Pontnewydd were Claire Bartlett, Jan Breddy and Jackie Quigley, 88 pts; in second place from St Mary Hill were Celia Thomas, Rosalie Clode and Kay Harcombe, 80 pts (41 back 9); in third place from Brynhill were Jo Kirkpatrick, Audrey Phillips and Rose Pitman; 80 points (40 back 9).

Longest drive, Chris Thomas from Pontnewydd.

Once again, thank you to the ladies captain, Mrs. Julie Harkin who, with her committee, organised a wonderful day and a special thank you to Julie for the lovely prizes.

Also a special thank you to John Kirkpatrick who was the starter on the first tee for many hours; his time was greatly appreciated.

AP

The ladies' captain Julie Harkin.

ABOVE: The ladies' captain's winners.

Holton Road look for players

HOLTON ROAD under-13s are looking for new players.

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SW

Barrivale results

LATEST results from Barrivale, July 2:

First, Mick Green and Noelle Bond, 69.05 per cent; second, Sam Fellows and Sean Macdougall, 58.93; third,Tom Kendrick and Dave Thomas 55.21. Sam and Sean won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale, if you would like to join us ring 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm.

Results from Barrivale from July 9 were:

1st Mark Roderick & Mike Close 57.08 per cent; 2nd Diana Kendrick & Cynthia Luen 55.42; 3rd Denis Mottram & Ken Hannah 53.75.

Diana and Cynthia won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale, if you would like to join us ring 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road , Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm. **Mike Bond**

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Day's celebrates anniversary with rebranding of branch

ADVERTISING PROMOTION

TEN years after the opening of Day's Trade Centre in Cardiff, the Swansea-based motor group is rebranding its Cardiff branch as Day's Motor Park.

This has been timed to coincide with the company's 87th anniversary. To implement the strategic plan put in place by the rebranding, Day's management has appointed Cardiff-born Lee Blackmore to the post of sales manager.

It will be his job to stimulate sales and develop the company's online and digital presence.

He said: "In Cardiff, we are just rebranding and not changing our operation, which has done so well over the last 10-years.

"We would like people to come here, see the investment made and the improvements we have undertaken to promote the name of Day's Motor Park in south-east Wales.

"In Swansea, the Day's name has been synonymous with the Ford marque for decades, and our mission is to tell customers and potential customers that we are here, developing the site and expanding the facilities we offer."

As an auto dealer, Day's has a pedigree that reaches back to 1926. During this time, the company has established centres in both Cardiff and Llanelli.

Mr Blackmore explained: "This rebranding has been done to bring our Cardiff operation in line with the rest of the group. Swansea remains Day's Motor Park Swansea and Day's Motor Park Llanelli was launched two months ago."

The Hadfield Road site in Cardiff, which can accommodate 130 cars, is currently shared with Day's Car Rental.

Over the years, the rental facilities have meant Day's has built up a large customer base in the corporate market for hired vehicles.

In addition to its sales and rental services, Day's can offer customers immediate access to a stock of 10,000 vehicles, which includes both new and used vehicles.

"Our speciality here at Day's Motor Park, Hadfield Road, is the nearly-new range," Mr Blackmore said.

"That's not to say we don't offer other makes, we do, but 70% of our stock is Ford and because of the nearly-new aspect of the business, cars here are always competitively price-matched. This means that within the AutoTrader and other internet search engines, Day's regularly appears at the top when it comes to the lowest prices in this region and customers travel hundreds of miles to purchase a car from us."

Because it is branded Day's Trade Centre, the implication is that it deals solely with competitively-priced vehicles prepared to the highest standard.

Commenting on this Mr Blackmore said: "We are a traditional dealer with traditional services offering part exchange, extended warranties, various finance options, vehicle accessories and an on-site car park for customer convenience."

Students gather for Vale's biggest touchtennis event

SOME 70 young players from across the Vale of Glamorgan took part in Wales's biggest touchtennis event so far.

Competitors from Barry Comprehensive, Bryn Hafren, Ysgol Bro Morgannwg, Stanwell and St Cyres joined others from host school St Richard Gwyn Catholic High School in Barry.

Two hours of round-robin competition led to a final between Barry Comprehensive and Stanwell. Some excellent rallies and competitive play eventually saw a narrow victory for Stanwell.

The winners and runners-up received the prize of a new racquet.

Organiser Ben Coates said: "Bringing all the schools together to compete in one afternoon at this up-and-coming sport was fantastic.

"Credit has to go to the players who all got into the spirit of the competition and played through the weather.

"Big thanks go to the players, 5x60 officers and teachers who made the event possible."

Touchtennis is an exciting adaptation of the traditional game using a smaller court and sponge ball which can be played by anyone almost anywhere.

To find out more about touchtennis and all aspects of tennis in Wales, contact Tennis Wales at www.lta.org.uk/in-your-area/Wales or call 029 20 463335.

PETANQUE FINALS HELD IN PENARTH

ON Sunday, July 7, the Penarth Pétanque Club hosted the 2013 Welsh Pétanque Association National Singles championship, where 16 players assembled at the playing pistes of the Kymin Garden in Penarth and were all pleased to see the blazing sun shining.

In the afternoon, the knock-out stage of the competitions started with the quarter-finals. In the main competition Jean-Yves Robic (Penarth PC) beat Gemma Foster (Wheatsheaf PC), Geaf Jones (Penarth PC) beat Richard Harris (Caerleon PC), John Price (Caerleon PC) beat Ian Williams (Penarth PC) and Jake Caston (Wheatsheaf PC) beat John Prosser (Abergavenny PC) to secure their place in the semi-finals.

In the plate, after an equally good series of games, Tansy Mayfield (Caerleon PC), Peter McCarthy (Abergavenny PC), Kon Tomczyk (PC) and Rhys Lawrence (Penarth PC), the only junior in the event, booked their place in the plate semi-finals.

All semi-finals were played in the shade on the lower pistes of the Kymin and all games were fiercely competed. In the main, Jean-Yves Robic (Penarth PC) could not repeat his win against Jake Caston (Wheatsheaf PC) and narrowly conceded the first place in the final 12-13. The second semi-final saw John Price (Caerleon PC) beat the last Penarth PC representative, Geoff Jones 13-5 to secure an all Gwent final.

The plate competition saw Rhys Lawrence (Penarth PC) conceding a sharp 3-13 defeat to Kon Tomczyk (Caerleon PC), and Peter McCarthy (Abergavenny PC) take the best over Tansy Mayfield (Caerleon PC) 13-5.

The final for the title between John Price and Jake Caston was off high calibre but despite building up a good early lead, John Price could not stop a very good come back from veteran player Jake Caston (Wheatsheaf PC) who finally took the 2013 National Singles title 13-8.

The plate final was also a very good game and Peter McCarthy (Abergavenny PC) took control of the games in the early stage and remained strong to deny Kon Tomczyk the victory 13-10 despite an excellent comeback. **J-YR**

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07 07	**VAUXHALL Corsa 1.4 SXi.** 75,430 miles, in silver	£3,695
04 04	**FORD Focus 1.6 Zetec Auto.** 61,790 miles, in tonic blue	£3,495
06 56	**FORD Fiesta 1.4 TDCi Van.** 50,500 miles in silver	£3,295 + VAT
03 03	**MGTF 1.8.** 30,990 miles, in silver	£2,809

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05 05 BMW 330 ci **£8695**

11 11 Ford Fiesta Zetec S **£9995**

09 09 Nissan Micra **£5995**

08 57 Focus 1.6 Style **£4995**

07 57 BMW 730d Sport **£13995**

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58 **FORD Fiesta 1.4 Diesel Zetec Blue 3-dr.** In met silver, 51,000 miles, £30 road tax **£5,495**
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58 **VAUXHALL Corsa 1.4 Design 3-dr.** In met-blue, 72,000 miles, 1 owner **£4,695**
07 **PEUGEOT 207 1.6 Sport Automatic 3-dr.** In black, 37,000 miles **£4,495**
07 **PEUGEOT 407 1.6 Diesel SE Estate.** In silver, 71,000 miles, full glass roof **£4,495**
06 **TOYOTA Corolla 1.6 Colour 5-dr.** In light met blue, 70,000 miles, a/c, alloys **£4,495**
06 **FORD Fiesta 1.4 Diesel Zetec 5-dr.** In black. £30 road tax, low insurance **£3,995**
06 **FORD Fiesta 1.4 Diesel Style Climate 5-dr.** In glacier silver, 67,000 miles, £30 road tax, CD, Air Con **£3,995**
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06 **CHEVROLET Lacetti 1.8 Sport 5-dr.** In silver with full leather trim, 75,000 miles. **£2,495**
05 **FORD Sport Ka.** In met blue with blue/black leather. 56,000 miles **£2,495**
03 **VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 Elegance 5-Dr.** In met burgundy, 56,000 miles, 2 owners **£2,495**
05 **HYUNDAI Getz 1.1 3-Dr GSi.** In silver, 70,000 miles, low insurance **£2,395**
04 **FORD Ka Collection.** In aqua silver, 53,000 miles, low insurance **£2,395**
03 **SKODA Fabia 1.4 16v Elegance 5-Dr.** In met blue with a/c, heated seats etc **£1,995**
02 **HYUNDAI Agila 1.0 GSi 5-dr.** In green, 44,000 miles, low insurance **£1,695**

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GEM sport

Young Bridgend Town cricketers coast home in Maesteg match

BRIDGEND Town Cricket Club under 12s played Maesteg Town on a glorious evening at Newbridge Fields.

Maesteg won the toss and elected to bat.

Runs were very hard to come by against an experienced Bridgend attack.

G. James (6), C. Thomas (4) and E. Edwards (4) were the pick of the Maesteg batsmen.

In an excellent bowling display from Bridgend, the wicket takers were O. Johns (2), E. Biebrach (1), J. Hayes (1), O. Lewis (1), J. Marshall (1) and B. Jones (1).

Maesteg reached a score of 225 off their 20 overs for the loss of seven wickets (Pairs Format).

Bridgend Town's innings got off to a flying start, with hard hitting E. Biebrach smashing 37 off 21 balls in a fine display, K.Metha (13) and wicket-keeper H.Evans (7) providing good contributions.

The Maesteg wickets were taken by M. Colston (2), J. Richards (2) and C. Thomas (2).

Bridgend posted a final score of 298 for 6, resulting in a win by 73 runs.

Team: E. Biebrach (Capt.), H. Evans (W/k), C. Hart, J. Hayes, O. Johns, B. Jones, O. Lewis, J. Marshall, K. Metha, and M. Padmanabhan.

JH

Bridgend Rotarians' bowls triples success

ROTARY District 1150's 90th annual bowls triples competition was held, as usual, at the Llandrindod Wells Bowling Club, Rock Park, on July 9.

The team representing the Rotary Club of Bridgend included Edgar Burt, Stan Harding, Roy Hodgkinson and coach/bag carrier Neil Solman.

Twenty four teams entered the competition and after we had won four of our five games (our only loss being to a previous winner of this event, Aberaeron), it was announced that Bridgend had been awarded third place.

Second place went to Brecon A team, with the winners being Pontllanfraith, which had this year's District Governor David Curtis as a team member!

It was n excellent event at a beautiful venue!

ROY HODGKINSON

ABOVE: The Rotarian team at Rock Park.

Matthew and Carwyn in 'Victory' habit, and head for Ashburnham

PYLE AND KENFIG GOLF CLUB NEWS

RIGHT: **Matthew Peet and Carwyn Hammond.**

MATTHEW Peet and Carwyn Hammond have proved a very successful pairing in the Victory Shield this year.

After beating Southerndown in a nail-biting match at Royal Porthcawl, they have progressed to the last eight in Wales and are to play Borth and Ynyslas at Ashburnham later this month.

Matthew is club champion of Pyle and Kenfig many times over, and Carwyn made his mark by winning the championship having moved to Pyle from Pontardawe Golf Club. Good luck to the pair for the next round.

MEN'S RESULTS

Men's competition results: George White Vase, winner Jamie Jones; Members and Guests day 1, winners Peter Cane and Richard Fauvel; Members and Guests day 2, winners Anthony Jones and B. John; Dennis Phillips Cup, winner Tom Furneaux; DCL Cup, winners Jay and John Templar.

Pyle and Kenfig Golf Club welcomes all golfers and the Course is open all year round. Contact www.pandkgolfclub.co.uk or secretary@pandkgolfclub.co.uk

EDWARD'S ACE WINS HIM A BRAND NEW TIMEPIECE!

A 77-YEAR-OLD Bridgend golfer has received a limited-edition BOSS watch after scoring a hole-in-one during a recent competition at his club.

Edward Miller scored his ace on the 191-yard, par-three seventh at his club, Southerndown, and the 15-handicapper was rewarded with membership of the exclusive BOSS Watches H1 Club – and a specially-commissioned, commemorative timepiece.

The company has pledged to reward club golfers with an exclusive watch for every hole-in-one recorded during a club competition between April 15 and October 31 this year.

The scheme is open to any golfer whose club uses HowDidiDo – a free-to-use, web-based social network for golfers – and anybody playing in official club competitions will be eligible.

Southerndown ladies retain their Welsh title

THE Southerndown Golf Club ladies team are still celebrating after their recent win in the Welsh Team Championships at Cardigan Golf Club.

The team were the defending champions, and has been strengthened in recent years, attracting top young golfers from across south Wales.

Local girl, 23-year-old Amy Rees of Bridgend, already seven times the club champion, has been at the heart of the team, together with Alaitz Zubikarai, also of Bridgend.

They have been joined more recently by Welsh internationals Miriam Hassan from Newport and the Lewis sisters, Rachel and Georgia, from Llanishen.

To reach the final Southerndown had to beat Fairwood Park, Cottrell Park, Wrexham, Aberdovey – and eventually Newport in the final.

This was an exciting match played in testing conditions against a very strong Newport team. However, Southerndown held their nerve to retain the trophy.

The team captain, Norma Barber, who is a past captain and long-standing member of the club, says that she is immensely proud of the girls and what they have achieved.

The unique playing conditions at Southerndown provide a real challenge for golfers of all abilities. Its geographical position on the downs over the Ogmore estuary also ensures that it is open 52 weeks every year.

More than 50 golfers from other south Wales clubs who live more than 10 miles away have joined Southerndown's successful 'Second Club' membership scheme.

A club spokesman said that full memberships are still available, and lessons can be booked from club professional and top Welsh coach, John Peters.

ABOVE: Southerndown Ladies golf team – Welsh champions two years running.

On the female side, professional Lydia Hall is a member of the LET Ladies Tour (attached to Southerndown) and is supporting the initiative to introduce more ladies to golf.

She will be competing on the ladies tour during the week the club is running a taster session but had this to say: "I think this is a great scheme and I am happy to support any initiatives that encourage women to take up our sport.

"I know the ladies will enjoy the taster session which is being run by my life time coach John Peters. I look forward to seeing more ladies practicing and enjoying playing the game of golf at my home club."

Local bodybuilders muscle out competition

TWO local bodybuilders recetly took part in the British National Bodybuilding Federation competition at The Dolman Theatre in Newport.

Amie Lloyd (27) came third in the figure round and Peter Roche (27), in his first competition, also achieved third place in the novice round.

They have now qualified for the British finals, which will be held on Sunday, September 15 in Manchester.

MM

ABOVE: Amie Lloyd (left) and Peter Roche (right)
PHOTOS BY MICHELLE MCKENNA

Bridgend Athletic limber up for season

BRIDGEND Athletic RFC have started pre-season training ahead of their second season in the Championship.

They are training at Merthyr Mawr sand dunes each Tuesday and Newbridge Fields on Thursdays. Both sessions commence at 6.30pm.

Any new recruits are welcome to attend – contact team manager Paul Hearne (07970348065) for further details.

The coaching set-up is head and backs coach, John Apsee, assisted by Tom Cole and Stuart Morris. Forwards coach, David Williams, assisted by Paul Jones and Tony Griffiths. Paul Hearne is 1st XV team manager and Liam Griffiths 2nd XV team manager.

Pre-season friendlies have been arranged with Kenfig Hill – home – Aug 10; Bridgend Ravens – away – August 17; and Kidwelly – away – Aug 24.

Following refurbishment of the upstairs function room – the main downstairs bar is currently undergoing a major refurbishment.

Latest Bridgend Bridge results

RESULTS for Bridgend Bridge Club for recent events are as follows: .

July 10 – first, Laura Woodruff and Mike Close; equal second, Irene Thomas and Graham Jones and Tony Disley and Kevin Maddox.

July 12 – first, Irene Thomas and Graham Jones; second, Dian Jones and Pat Cogbill; third, Vida Halford and Glyn Williams

In addition to the regular club nights on Wednesdays and Fridays at Nolton Church Hall at 7pm, to which all Bridge players are welcome, there are sessions for the less experienced where assistance is available on Thursdays from 2pm until 5pm, also at Nolton Church Hall

The best placed improvers on Thursday, July 11, were Stuart Davies and Francis Heslin

In the autumn, lessons for beginners will resume. To register an interest, contact Steve Burgoyne (01656 661968), John Evans (01656 880372) or David Newman (01656 649138).

DN